

Denver Mint Letters Sent – 1910

NARA-D RG104, E-21 1910 Letters sent

Partial transcription, courtesy of Roger W. Burdette.

NOTE: The text has not been checked or validated. No corrections or changes have been made except for recognized errors.

Red numbers in brackets are page numbers in the original volume.

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The Director of the Mint

Washington, D.C.

July 11, 1910

Sir:

Referring to your letters of June 27th and July 6th, and to letters of the Civil Service Commission of June 23rd and July 1st, in regard to examinations and filing of experience blanks by the various employees of this institution whose designations have been changed to conform to the reclassification of employees in accordance with Department Circular No. 18, of April 18th, 1910, I have to state that, inasmuch as an examination or filing of experience blank has been waived by the Commission in the case of Clarence C. Malmstrom on the ground that his duties will remain the same as formerly and former title is not included in the new schedule as given in Circular No. 18, above referred to, it appears to me the same ruling should apply to the other employees referred to in said correspondence, viz:

X. T. Stoddard, Foreman Ref'y Melt'g Rm, formerly Melter.

James Gain, Skilled Workman " Weigher.

Rodney E. Hall, Skilled Woman " Sampler.

John C. Cogan, Plumber formerly Steam Fitter.

George H. Smith, Melter " Melter.

Patrick Ryan, Melter " Asst. Melter.

Enos P. Schell, Skilled Workman " " Weigher.

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In every case the employee's duties will continue to be identically the same as he has been performing in the past, and, save in the case of X. T. Stoddard, the designations which they have formerly had have been omitted in the new classification. In the case of George H. Smith, who is one of those requested to forward form No. 1800, showing experience, I think possibly an error has been made as no change has been proposed even in his designation, which continues to be that of Melter as fixed in the reclassification of employees dated April 1, 1908.

Respectfully

Frank M. Downer

Superintendent

[5]

The Director of the Mint

Washington, D.C.

July 11, 1910

Sir:

I have to forward herewith my report of absences in the various departments of this institution for the month of June, 1910.

Respectfully

Frank M. Downer

Superintendent

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The Director of the Mint

Washington, D.C.

July 11, 1910

Sir:

I have to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 5th inst. directing that the bars from the Omaha Refinery of the American Smelting & Refining Co. be melted upon receipt here. In accordance with these directions, commencing today, I am melting these Omaha bars. I assume, of course, that the same instructions relative to the melting of all

deposits of bullion have gone to the other Mints and also to the New York Assay Office, which Office receives a considerable portion of these Omaha bars.

Respectfully
Frank M. Downer
Superintendent

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The Director of the Mint
Washington, D.C.
July 12, 1910

Sir:

I have to enclose herewith my report of Changes in Employees of this institution for the month of June, 1910.

Respectfully
Frank M. Downer
Superintendent

[8]

The Director of the Mint
Washington, D.C.
July 12, 1910

Sir:

I have to forward herewith four copies of my report setting forth the cost of operations in the various departments of this institution for the month of June, 1910.

Respectfully
Frank M. Downer
Superintendent

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The Director of the Mint
Washington, D.C.

July 15, 1910

Sir:

I have to enclose my report of the operations of this institution for the fiscal year ended June 30th, 1910.

Respectfully

Frank M. Downer

Superintendent

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The Director of the Mint

Washington, D.C.

July 15, 1910

Sir:

Referring to the Melter & Refiner's settlement statement, Form No. 900, recently forwarded to the Bureau, I desire to direct your attention to the wastage shown in the operations of the Ingot Melting Room, viz., 326.386 Standard Ounces gold. I would say that the Melter & Refiner, at my request, has furnished me a statement in detail, which exhibits the actual wastage in the Ingot Room during the fiscal year 1909, and the fiscal year 1910, which statement shows that in 1909 the wastage there was 10.3% of the legal allowance, while during 1910 it was 17.7%. This wastage of 326.386 Standard ounces gold was of course deducted from the gain in the Refinery, which sum, together with metal recovered from the well and the balance turned in by the Assayer, made up a total surplus in the entire Department of the Melter & Refiner of 306.439 standard ounces gold. I have told the Melter & Refiner that, in my opinion, the percentage of wastage in the Ingot Room during the fiscal

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year 1910 was quite large, though I confess I have no exact data to judge certainly with respect to that. This new form (No. 900) is so comprehensive and excellent in every way that it would seem to afford an opportunity for a comparison of the operations of our Ingot Room with those of other mints, and I would greatly appreciate it if I can be furnished with a copy of this form as filled out by the Melter & Refiner at the Mints at Philadelphia and San Francisco, in order that I may institute such a comparison and discover if possible if our wastage here is excessive, and if so endeavor to ascertain the cause or causes for the excess wastage. I observe that the old form No. 900, Melter & Refiner's Settlement Statement, does not render it possible to tell the wastage or surplus, as the

case may be, in the Ingot Room, while the new form as filled out by the Melter & Refiner this year does show the exact amount of wastage, and I would respectfully suggest a change in the form, putting another line in, thus providing a place where the wastage can be expressed on a percentage basis. Referring to your letter of April 5th, 1910, wherein instructions were given as to the disposition of the surplus metal from the Deposit Melting Room, derived from the crushing of old crucibles, stirrers, and furnace brick, and also the tailing from same

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resulting from their treatment in the Sweeps Cellar, I would say that the Melter & Refiner's figures as to the wastage in the Ingot Room are made up exclusive of all such metal recovered here, and I assume of course that the same rule will apply to the Settlement Statement of the Melter & Refiner of the other mints, although this letter respecting the disposal of the metal just described was not received by any of the institutions until during the last quarter. I would say that Mr. Milsom, Melter & Refiner, is equally anxious with me to ascertain and determine what may properly be considered a reasonable loss from the operations of the Ingot Melting Room. I am of the opinion that the legal limit of loss in these operations permitted by the regulations is too great, and it should be at least divided by two. I think it is but fair to say that the Ingot Melting Room is really entitled to a major portion of the metal recovered from the settling well, and would explain that all the water from the Deposit Melting Room, the Ingot Melting Room and the Refinery Melting Room, goes into that well, and it is entirely impossible of course to apportion the metal recovered therefrom to the different rooms. I would think, however, and Mr. Milsom agrees with me in this estimate, that 25 or 30 ounces of the 47 ounces (approximately) recovered this year from the settling

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well should be credited to the Ingot Room, as it is our practice here to wash and scrub all of the ingots made. I would say, in passing, that the recovery from the settling well this year is approximately 47 ounces, while last year it was approximately 168 ounces. The difference, I think, is accounted for by the fact that some 15 or 16 months ago I inaugurated in the Deposit Melting Room the plan of dry cleaning in the treatment of the Deposit Melting Room metal, so that I apprehend that the Deposit Melting Room operations have contributed but little, if any, to the total amount of metal found in the settlings, and I feel as if we have made a decided advance in the treatment of the deposits in that room. I trust I may be pardoned if I again call attention to the desirability of changing the

regulations with respect to the reporting of gold bullion, and reiterate my recommendation that the regulations be changed so as to permit the Assayer to report to the quarter thousandth instead of the half thousandth. I can see no other source from which the surplus in the operations of the Refinery during the past year, amounting as shown by the Melter & Refiner's Settlement Statement to 541.858, could have been derived.

Respectfully

Frank M. Downer

Superintendent

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The Director of the Mint

Washington, D.C.

July 16, 1910

Sir:

As requested by your letter of the 30th ult., (F.P.D.) I have to enclose a statement by the Assayer of this institution descriptive of the method employed by him in determining the gold contents of Dore silver.

Respectfully

Frank M. Downer

Superintendent

[15]

Director of Mint

Washington, D.C.

July 18, 1910

Please wire decision on my letter ninth respecting silver coinage.

Downer

Superintendent

[16]

The Director of the Mint

Washington, D.C.

July 18, 1910

Sir:

As requested by your letter of the 12th inst. (F.P.D.) I have to enclose a statement showing the weight and assay of each lot of tailings from the Sweeps Cellar of this institution that have been sold during the last two fiscal years.

Respectfully

Frank M. Downer

Superintendent

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Director of Mint

Washington, D.C.

July 19, 1910

Bullion funds needed at New York.

Downer

Superintendent

[18]

Mint of the United States at Denver

The Director of the Mint

Washington, D.C.

July 19, 1910

Sir:

I have to advise you that Mr. A.L. Lambert arrived here from San Francisco this afternoon and will finish his work here relative to the automatic weighing machine tomorrow. He reports the machine as in good working order.

In reference to the installation of these machines, I want to say that I am a firm believer in the desirability of installing them and will cooperate with the Bureau in every way. I think it proper to submit for your consideration that the amount of work it is expected they will perform has perhaps been over-estimated. From my talk with Mr. Moessner and Mr. Lambert, I am of the opinion that upon silver coinage one machine will accomplish the work of perhaps five adjusters working by hand, and on gold will weigh as much coin as that many adjusters.

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Of course when we are operating on the latter metal, it is necessary that the planchets should be filed, and it is difficult to estimate just the amount of work one machine will accomplish.

I would respectfully suggest that upon Mr. Lambert's return you discuss this matter with him so that we may arrive at a clear understanding of what may be expected of these machines.

Respectfully

Frank M. Downer

Superintendent

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The Director of the Mint

Washington, D.C.

July 19, 1910

Sir:

I have to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 15th instant embodying your final decision regarding changes in the designations of certain employees in this institution to conform to Department Circular No. 18, approved April 18, 1910, and also changes in compensation of a number of employees, and, in accordance therewith, all of said changes will be noted on the pay roll to take effect July 1st, 1910.

The pay of all helpers in the Refinery is \$4.00 per diem, and referring to the case of Arthur H. Lundin, I desire to call your attention to my recommendation of May 27th, last, in which I stated that it was my wish to have his compensation made the same as the other helpers in the Refinery, namely, \$4.00 per diem. Lundin was assigned to duty in the Refinery November 1st, 1909, and as his services there have been entirely satisfactory, it appears only proper that his wage should be the same as the other helpers there, the duties

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of all being practically the same.

It was also my wish to have Harry R. Whitehead, formerly Assistant In Sweeps Cellar, hereafter designated Helper, as he also has been assigned to duty in the Refinery and performs the same work as the other helpers there.

I take it that you did not fully understand my recommendations in regard to these two men, and I have not therefore requested them to file application papers as Skilled Workmen thinking it best to first make the above explanations to you. Should such action still be deemed necessary, however, I will instruct them accordingly.

I do not quite understand your reference to Mrs. Kate Kennedy. Is it intended that in case she is one of the few Selectors retained, her pay should be reduced to \$2.50 per day?

With respect to the Captain of the Watch, I would say that I like that title better than Superintendent of Building and believe it more nearly describes his duties.

As soon as I hear from you further respecting Lundin, Whitehead and Mrs. Kennedy, I will as directed forward to the Bureau a list of the employees here made up by departments,

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[Page number omitted.]

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some other work to do and eliminate some other fellow from that job. Thus you will have a compact, and I believe a happy and contented force.

Second. Retain only the most efficient workmen, and let it be understood thoroughly by all concerned that their retention and advancement in the service is dependent entirely on the character of their conduct and workmanship; then adopt the best system possible of ascertaining the quality and quantity of the work performed by each employee, so that if it becomes necessary to take action in any case the record can be produced and the person interested frankly and fully advised concerning what the record shows.

I appreciate fully that this institution is by far the youngest in the service and that the average age of the employees here is therefore much less than that which obtains in the other mints, consequently, save in a few instances, we do not encounter difficulties that I know must be met in great numbers elsewhere.

Third. Pay the force that is retained good and even high wages. I believe in view of the fact that the employees of a mint are in the presence of the precious metals in various forms much of the time and that their responsibilities are

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considerable, both with respect to the safe-guarding of the metal and the quality and integrity of the finished product, that their compensation should be greater even than that ordinarily received by persons employed in similar operations elsewhere. And I believe that the fact of a man being employed in the Mint Service should be regarded as in a large measure a certificate of his industry and efficiency and his fidelity.

I am aware of the fact that the ideas I have endeavored to express herein would be regarded by many as altogether visionary and entirely impracticable, but I sincerely believe that with thorough and proper cooperation on the part of all concerned, it is possible to go a long way towards bringing about even in the Government service the conditions I have briefly outlined.

Respectfully
Frank M. Downer
Superintendent

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[Page number omitted.]

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The Director of the Mint
Washington, D.C.

July 20, 1910

Sir:

Referring to that portion of your telegram of this date directing me to dispense immediately with the services of the Selectors, I have to advise you that I have this day informed Mrs. Kennedy, Forewoman of Selectors, and the seventeen Selectors who are now on the roll, that, at the expiration of their regular annual leave, a furlough and rating card, Form No. 970, will be issued to them.

The annual leave of these ladies will expire on various dates between July 25th and August 4th, and as the cards are issued, the dates of issuance and rating given will be forwarded to the Bureau in each case.

Respectfully

Frank M. Downer

Superintendent

[27]

The Director of the Mint

Washington, D.C.

July 20, 1910

Sir:

As requested in your letter of the 8th instant K, I have to enclose, in duplicate, a statement giving the sizes of the crucibles used at this institution.

I would say that all of these are in daily use, and it would be unwise to eliminate any of them from the annual contracts.

Respectfully

Frank M Downer

Superintendent

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[Page number omitted.]

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SIZES OF CRUCIBLES USED AT MINT OF U.S. AT DENVER

Nos. 14, 20, 30, 60, 80 Black Lead.

“J” and “K”, Battersea.

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The Director of the Mint

Washington, D.C.

July 21, 1910

Sir:

Referring to your letter of June 20th, 1910, advising that coin sacks shall be purchased during this fiscal year under the Treasury contract and the bags dyed blue for the gold coinage of 1910 whenever necessary in the city using same – I have to say that there are on hand here now 350 gold sacks dyed blue which remain from the stock furnished by the Mint at Philadelphia, and I have also 1650 gold coin sacks which were on hand when the blue design was adopted.

I would like to utilize these 1650 sacks if you approve and would ask what special formula, if any, of blue dye was used at Philadelphia and not found detrimental to the life of the sacks. Of course our sacks here could not be dyed in the mint, but contract would be let on competitive proposal for their dyeing and drying. Will you please advise me at your convenience.

Respectfully

Frank M. Downer

Superintendent

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The Director of the Mint

Washington, D.C.

July 25, 1910

Sir:

To enable me to meet the expenditure for the month ending August 31, 1910, on account of the appropriations made for the support of this institution for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1911, it is requested that you cause a requisition to be made upon the Sec-

retary of the Treasury for the following amounts, with which I am to be charged and held accountable under my bond dated June 23rd, 1908, viz:

Salaries, \$3,300.

Wages of Workmen, \$8,000.

Contingent Expenses, \$2,000.

Parting & Refining, \$2,700.

Total, \$16,000.00.

Respectfully

Frank M. Downer

[32]

The Director of the Mint

Washington, D.C.

July 25, 1910

Sir:

I have to advise you that in accordance with Section 2, Rule 3, Civil Service Regulations governing appointments, etc., in Mints and Assay Offices, approved February 28th, 1908, a Furlough and Rating Card (Form 970) has this day been issues to Miss Eva B. Terrill employed in this Mint as Selector - the rating on said card is as followed: - Workmanship Good, Conduct Excellent.

Respectfully

Frank M. Downer

Superintendent

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The Director of the Mint

Washington, D.C.

July 25, 1910

Sir:

Referring to my letter of the 15th instant, respecting the wastage in the Ingot room during the fiscal year 1910, which as shown by Melter & Refiner's settlement statement (Form No. 900) was 326.386 standard ounces gold, I would say that after writing you the letter of the 15th concerning this matter, I called in Mr. R.C. Morrison, Foreman of the Ingot room and who was on leave, and inquired of him as to the wastage. He admitted that the wastage was very large and stated that he could not account for it. I questioned him closely as to the character of the clean up and he informed me that it had

been thorough in every respect, both with respect to the flue or stack which was used in the work there during the six months operations in the Ingot room last year and the condenser. Being convinced that the wastage was excessive, I have caused another clean-up to be made under my direction by X.T. Stoddard, Foreman of the Refinery Melting

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room, and Lindhard, a helper in the Ingot room, with Stoddard in charge. These two men worked last Thursday, Friday and until two thirty o'clock Saturday and recovered 103.81 gross ounces of metal which the Assayer's determinations show to contain 70.588 standard ounces gold and 36.48 standard ounces silver of a value of \$1,313.28 in gold and \$16.82 in silver. Of this amount 5.288 standard ounces gold and 2.84 standard ounces of silver were recovered from the condenser.

Since writing my letter of the 15h, Mr. Chaffin has returned from the settlement at San Francisco and I have seen a copy of the Melter & Refiner's settlement statement which shows that bullion to the amount of 2,202,236.880 standard ounces gold was sent to the Ingot room there and that the wastage was 43.869 standard ounces gold, while here, bullion to the amount of 1,842,227.820 standard ounces of gold was sent to the Ingot room and our wastage after deducting the comparatively small amount of bullion recovered by this second clean up was 255.798 standard ounces.

As stated in my former letter, to make this comparison between the two institutions absolutely fair, it is essential to know whether or not the Ingot room accounts at San Francisco

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profited in any amount whatsoever from deposit melting room recoveries. I am convinced that the wastage in our ingot room from some cause, not determined at this time, is excessive. I am also convinced from the result of this second clean up that the clean up at the close of the last fiscal year and probably in former years, was not adequate.

I will thank you to advise me as to the disposition that should be made of this recovered bullion amounting to 70.588 standard ounces gold and 36.48 standard ounces silver which I now have in my custody.

Respectfully
Frank M. Downer

Superintendent

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The Director of the Mint

Washington, D.C.

July 26, 1910

Sir:

Referring to your letter of the 20th instant, inquiring as to the probable amount of gold bullion that will be deposited at this institution monthly by the American Smelting & Refining Company, I have to furnish you the exact receipts from this company from May 20th, when its first deposit was received, to date.

May, 4,518.380 Std. Ozs.

June, 13,893.653 “ “

July, 10,493.681 “ “

Respectfully

Frank M. Downer

Superintendent

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The Director of the Mint

Washington, D.C.

July 26, 1910

Sir:

I have to advise you that I have this day requested Mr. J.W. Cobbey, formerly Weigher in the Assay Department of this institution and who has been on indefinite furlough since September 30th, 1909, to report for duty here on Monday August 1st, 1910.

I desire to state that this action is based upon statements made to me in writing by Mr. Hodgson, the Assayer of this institution, who informs me that the work in his department has increased considerably within the past two months and that it will be almost impossible for him to give the men now regularly employed there their vacation unless he is given, for the present at least, additional help. In recalling Mr. Cobbey, I have given him to clearly understand that in case the work becomes slack again and it is necessary to reduce the force, he will be required to go on furlough.

Respectfully

Frank M. Downer

Superintendent

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The Director of the Mint

Washington, D.C.

July 27, 1910

Sir:

Referring to your letter (AAH) of the 20th instant, requesting a statement from the Melter & Refiner relating to the source of the surplus in his department, I have to enclose a communication in the premises submitted by Mr. Milsom, Melter & Refiner.

Respectfully

Frank M. Downer

Superintendent

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The Director of the Mint

Washington, D.C.

July 28, 1910

Sir:

I return herewith Memorandum No. 2 of Boise bullion shipment to this office forwarded with your letter of the 25th instant. By typewriting error the silver fineness of bar No. 294 was noted as 38 instead of 138.

Respectfully

Frank M. Downer

Superintendent

[40]

[Page number omitted.]

[41]

[Page number omitted.]

[42]

[Page number omitted.]

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The Director of the Mint
Washington, D.C.
July 29, 1910
Sir:

I have to acknowledge receipt of your letter (K) of the 27th instant enclosing communication from the U.S. Civil Service Commission of the 25th instant advising that X.T. Stoddard attained an average of 78% in noncompetitive examination to test his fitness for transfer from the position of Melter to that of Foreman of Refinery Melting room, thus making him eligible for transfer.

Mr. Stoddard has accordingly been placed on the pay roll as Foreman, Refinery Melting Room at \$1500. per annum, effective August 1st, 1910.

Respectfully
Frank M. Downer
Superintendent

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[Page number omitted.]

[45]

[Page number omitted.]

[46]

The Director of the Mint
Washington, D.C.
July 30, 1910

Sir:

I have to advise you that in accordance with Section 2, Rule 3, Civil Service Regulations governing appointments, etc., in Mints and Assay Offices, approved February 28th, 1908, a Furlough and Rating card (Form 970) has this day been issued to Miss Charlotte York employed in this Mint as Selector, the rating on said card is as follows:
Workmanship, Good, Conduct, Excellent.

Respectfully
Frank M. Downer
Superintendent

Same:

Effie E. Jones, Excellent,
Olive E. Adams, Good.

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Director of Mint
Washington, D.C.
July 30, 1910

Value of July coinage five thousand dollars in quarter dollars.

Downer
Superintendent

[48]

Director of the Mint
Washington, D.C.
July 30, 1910

Sir:

Upon examination and count at the close of business on the 30th day of July, 1910, I found the moneys in the hands of the cashier of this Mint to be as follows: [illegible] 224.820 Std. Ozs. [illegible] \$385,118,942.50. [illegible] 744.27 Std. Ozs. [illegible] \$4,120,171.00 [illegible] \$15,300.00 [illegible] \$37.45 Total \$369,254,450.95

Frank M. Downer
Superintendent

[49]

The Director of the Mint
Washington, D.C.
August 1, 1910

Sir:

I have to forward this day, under separate cover, annual contracts, duly signed, covering supplies for this institution during the fiscal year ending June 30th, 1911. There are certain items under contract with The Denver Fire Clay Company which should be corrected as follows: Furnace bodies – S 163 D should read .20 instead of \$1.20, and R. B. Caserolce 3-1/2" should read 3-3/4".

Respectfully
Frank M. Downer
Superintendent

[50]

[Page number omitted.]

[51]

The Director of the Mint
Washington, D.C.
August 2, 1910

Sir:

I have to advise you that in accordance with Section 2, Rule 3, Civil Service Regulations governing appointments, etc., in Mints and Assay Offices approved February 28, 1908, a Furlough and Rating Card (Form 970) has this day been issued to Miss Catherine Ka-

vanagh, employed as Selector, the rating given on said card is as follows: Workmanship Good, Conduct Excellent.

Respectfully
Frank M. Downer
Superintendent

Same:

Littrell, Excellent.

Wood, Good.

Maurer, Good.

Omyon Good.

Russell Good.

Aug. 3:

Suidluger, Excellent.

Dean, Good.

Aug 4:

Kennedy, Excellent.

Hauulton, Excellent.

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The Director of the Mint

Washington, D.C.

August 1, 1910

Sir:

Referring to that portion of your letter of the 28th inst. in which you advise me that Mr. Clark, Assistant Coiner in the Philadelphia Mint, has sent an informal statement of the methods of coinage there, I would be very glad indeed to receive a copy of Mr. Clark's statement; and as suggested by you, will have a similar statement of the methods of coinage at the Denver Mint made up and forwarded to you.

Respectfully

Frank M. Downer

Superintendent

[53]

The Director of the Mint

Washington, D.C.

August 2, 1910

Sir:

same, that, allowing one hour for oiling, etc., the capacity of each automatic machine is 21,000 pieces per day of seven hours. We have now had our automatic machine in practical use for the past three or four days on silver coin, and I know I am safe in saying that its capacity is 25,000 pieces in seven hours. Each of the ten weighing machines will weight 12 pieces each minute, that of course for the ten machines is 120 per minute, which makes a total of 7,200 pieces per hour; but, as all the coin has to pass through the machine twice, it reduces the actual coin which the machine will turn out to 3,600 pieces per hour, which for seven hours would be 25,200 pieces. As a matter of fact, however, we operate the machine more than seven hours daily.

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In making the foregoing estimate, I have not allowed for any loss of time on account of the channels becoming clogged, but as soon as I have completed the installation of an air pipe so that the dust can be blown out of the machine frequently, I am convinced that this difficulty of clogging will be largely done away with.

I am delighted with the operation of this machine, as is also Mr. Baldwin, and consider its performances truly remarkable. It uniformly and unhesitatingly throws out as condemned, pieces which vary from the limit we are using but one hundredth of a grain.

I desire to take this opportunity to express my appreciation of the work of Mr. Moessner in putting the machine in such perfect condition. He has, by grinding and polishing the knife edges and bearings, made it possible for us to speed the machine up to a considerable extent, which I believe accounts for the increased output from it. I am convinced that Moessner has thoroughly mastered the machine.

I beg to inquire what arrangements, if any, have been made towards supplying us with two or three more of these machines as I think we require them for our operations. I would like to have them at the earliest practicable moment.

Respectfully

Frank M. Downer

Superintendent

[55]

The Director of the Mint
Washington, D.C.
August 2, 1910

Sir:

I have to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 29th ultimo instructing me to confine the coinage of gold, when commenced, to the denomination of double eagles until otherwise instructed.

As you know, the stock of gold bullion at this institution, both refined and unrefined, is quite small. In fact the only gold we have in shape for coinage is approximately 100,000 ounces which is in the hands of the Coiner in the form of eagle ingots. The Refinery force returned to work yesterday (August 1st), and I expect to accumulate a sufficient stock of fine gold by October 1st to justify resuming gold coinage. When, if you approve, I will proceed to coin the gold we now have in shape into eagles, and unless otherwise instructed, will cast the gold we refine into double eagle ingots. If you so direct, I can of course coin the gold as fast as it is refined, but I have found in the

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The Director of the Mint
Washington, D.C.
August 3, 1910

Sir:

I have to advise you that I have this day forwarded, by registered mail, the Ordinary Expense Accounts of this institution for the month of July, 1910.

Respectfully

Frank M. Downer
Superintendent

[58]

The Director of the Mint
Washington, D.C.
August 4, 1910

Sir:

Referring to your telegram of the 20th ultimo, directing that the services of the Selectors be dispensed with immediately, I have to advise you that your instructions have been complied with and furlough cards have been issued to Mrs. Kennedy, Forewoman, and the seventeen Selectors who were on the pay roll. I have now to request authority to recall Mrs. Kennedy as Selector at a per diem compensation of \$2.50.

Since putting the automatic weighing machine into operation, it has developed that in using this machine there is no adequate inspection of the coin to detect imperfect pieces. Heretofore when the coin was weighed by hand, the adjusters examined both sides of it and threw out any pieces which were defective, either from imperfect execution or from

[59]

any other cause. In using the weighing machine the edges are inspected by the helper as he feeds them into the tubes and one side of the coin is reviewed by the man at the counting board as the coin is being made up for delivery; but I feel that we should have a more careful review of the coin before it is put into circulation. Mrs. Kennedy, from her long experience, I think is peculiarly adapted for this work, and I have fully discussed her recall with Mr. Baldwin, Coiner, whose views in the matter coincide with mine. I do not know even that one person can perform this work thoroughly until we try, but, as stated; I would like authority to recall Mrs. Kennedy and we will work out some plan to cover the matter thoroughly.

I am advised that at the Mint at Philadelphia they have a machine for reviewing and inspecting minor coin. If they have one to spare, I think I would like one of the machines here. I do not know whether they are adapted to silver coin or not. If they have none to spare, perhaps we could be furnished

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with complete blue print drawings and one of them could be made here. I understand that it takes two persons to operate this machine, but possibly an adequate inspection of the silver coin which we are turning out can be had with one person.

If you approve of my recommendation respecting the recall of Mrs. Kennedy, I would appreciate it if you would wire me on receipt of this letter so that I may put her to work immediately.

Respectfully
Frank M. Downer
Superintendent

[61]

The Director of the Mint
Washington, D.C.
August 4, 1910
Sir:

I have to advise you that in accordance with Section 2, Rule 3, Civil Service Regulations governing appointments, etc., in Mints and Assay Offices, approved February 28, 1908, a Furlough and Rating card (Form 970) has this day been issued to Miss Euatla Hamilton employed in this Mint as Selector. The rating on said card is as follows: Workmanship Excellent, Conduct Excellent.

Respectfully
Frank M. Downer
Superintendent

[62]

The Director of the Mint
Washington, D.C.
August 4, 1910
Sir:

I have to advise you that in accordance with Section 2, Rule 3, Civil Service Regulations governing appointments, etc., in Mints and Assay Offices, approved February 28, 1908, a Furlough and Rating card (Form 970) has this day been issued to Mrs. Kate E. Kennedy employed as Selector at this Mint. The rating on said card is as follows: Workmanship Excellent, Conduct Excellent.

Respectfully
Frank M. Downer
Superintendent

[63]

The Director of the Mint
Washington, D.C.
August 4, 1910

Sir:

As requested in your letters of the 15th and 28th ultimo, I am enclosing, in triplicate, list of the present force of employees at this institution.

Respectfully

Frank M. Downer

Superintendent

[64]

The Director of the Mint

Washington, D.C.

August 6, 1910

Sir:

Referring to your letter of August 2nd, respecting the wastage in the Ingot Melting room for the fiscal year 1910, wherein I am instructed to forward my recommendation that the services of Mr. Richard C. Morrison, Foreman of the Ingot Melting room be dispensed with, I have to enclose a copy of letter dated the 5th instant to Mr. Morrison requesting his resignation to take effect at the close of business August 15th, 1910, and granting him permission to file a statement which he has done and the same is enclosed herewith.

Referring to the melts which Mr. Morrison states were made by him under the direction of the Melter & Refiner subsequent to the cleanup which he says he made and which infers, if not in fact directly states, that the recovery under my direction was really and totally the loss from these after cleanup melts, I would state that undoubtedly the large majority of my special recovery had no connection with these

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melts because it was gained by careful chiseling and scraping of the oxidized coppery deposits for the full length of the stack.

It seems from the Foreman's statement that he knew that the loss was large and that should have been an additional incentive for him to make another and thorough cleanup even after these subsequent melts; and if the statement that the metal recovered from the second cleanup was entirely, or even in considerable part, the result of bullion lost in these twenty five melts, were correct, it would appear that had the same care been ex-

exercised in the original cleanup by the Foreman of the room, there would have been little to complain of on account of the wastage in the Ingot room.

I would say therefore that I see nothing in the communication from Mr. Morrison which relieves him from the just conclusion that he manifested negligence and incompetency in making the Ingot room cleanup at the close of business for the fiscal year, and it still appears that there was absolutely no adequate cleanup of that room.

Mr. Morrison has filed his resignation with me (which he states is under protest) to take effect at the close of business August 15th, 1910, and unless otherwise instructed by you it will be operative on that date.

Respectfully

Frank M. Downer
Superintendent

[66]

Mr. F. M. Downer
Superintendent, U. S. Mint
Denver, Colo.
August 6, 1910

Sir:

Referring to your letter of Aug. 5th, and to our discussion of the same date, I submit the following reply.

The clean-up as made by me conformed in every respect to former clean-ups as taught me by my predecessor, a man of long mint service. To your letters to the Director, to which you refer in your letter to me, I feel that the following statement of facts should be added:

You will please note that after making the clean-up in question, on June 11th to 14th, inclusive, I melted, under the direction of the Melter and Refiner, twenty-five melts of gold ingots, operating on 154,911.09 standard ounces of metal, on which there was an apparent loss of 109.90 standard ounces. Deducting from this an average recovery of practically 1.26 standard ounces per melt, arising from spent charcoal, crucible and stirrer scrapings, and floor sweeps, as shown by my monthly returns, 32 standard ounces in amount, leaving to be accounted for 77.90 standard ounces, which is more than your special clean-up returned.

This same method was followed on the annual clean-up just preceding this one, during which twelve melts of standard gold ingots and four melts of standard silver ingots were made after the

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clean-up; the stacks and flues not receiving any additional clean-up after said melts; yet your settlement with the government shows a gain for the ingot operations.

Former clean-ups have all made satisfactory settlements. According to these showings, I have felt that the clean-ups as made were adequate. It has been known to myself and to the other melters under me that gold was deposited on the brick lining to the back chamber and flues which could not be brushed off in the ordinary way. We each called the former foreman's attention to this condition, and were each told by him that such lining were not to be torn out until burned out and needing replacement. As the Ingot room has, until this time, been given credit for surplus bullion obtained elsewhere and show to check out each year, I was, of course, led to believe it was the practice, and that the tearing out of furnace and flue linings was not intended.

I therefore do not feel that I am incompetent or have shown a lack of knowledge or care in my work.

Respectfully

R. C. Morrison

Foreman Ingot Melting Room

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The Director of the Mint

Washington, D.C.

August 8, 1910

Sir:

Referring to your letter of July 28th and to my reply thereto of August 2nd, respecting the capacity of the automatic weighing machine here, I have to say that on Friday August 5th, this machine during the regular day's work of eight hours, actually turned out 27,459 finished pieces, which of course exceeds my former estimate of 25,000 pieces. It occurred to me that this information might be of interest to the Bureau.

I would also say that of these 27,459 pieces, 26,952 were good coin, while but 507 pieces were condemned, that is, were outside of the 1.25 grain limit which we are using, and it is probable that when these 507 pieces are again run through the machine with a limit of say 1.40, a number of them will be found all right. I speak of this feature because

to my mind it indicates exceptionally good rolling, the loss in condemned being .018%, and Mr. Baldwin estimates that if we are able to continue to do as correct rolling, we can turn out more than 70% from the ingot.

Respectfully
Frank M. Downer
Superintendent

[69]

The Director of the Mint
Washington, D.C.
August 8, 1910

Sir:

Referring to your letter of the 4th instant, quoting extract from letter received from the Superintendent of the Mint at San Francisco relative to the operations of the automatic weighing machines and inquiring whether any test of these machines has been made here on double eagles, I have to say that no such test has been made here as we are operating on silver coin of the denomination of quarters. However, if you desire such a test made, Mr. Moessner informs me that he can get the machine in shape for it and make a test in probably one day.

Respectfully
Frank M. Downer
Superintendent

[70]

The Director of the Mint
Washington, D.C.
August 8, 1910

Sir:

I have to enclose my report of changes in the personnel of this institution for the month of July, 1910.

Respectfully
Frank M. Downer
Superintendent

[71]

The Director of the Mint
Washington, D.C.
August 9, 1910
Sir:

I have to advise you that Mr. Joseph W. Milsom, Melter & Refiner at this institution has requested and been granted fifteen days leave of absence, and subject to your approval, has designated Mr. J. M. Hetrich to attend to his duties during such absence.

Respectfully
Frank M. Downer
Superintendent

[72]

The Director of the Mint
Washington, D.C.
August 9, 1910
Sir:

I have to acknowledge receipt of your letter of the 5th instant enclosing sample of new form of pay roll to be used in this Mint from and after August 1st, 1910. I note your instructions and the same will be carried out. I would say, however, that it has been our practice heretofore to make a separate roll of the employees paid from our different appropriations, viz: Officers & Clerks, Other Clerks and Employees paid from Wages of Workmen, and Wages of Workmen, also those paid from Parting & Refining in order that the various amounts expensed in each could be checked here by the Cashier and Bookkeeper and by the Bureau. I assume that you desire that this practice shall be continued and our next pay roll will be made that way, but if it is desired that no separation shall be made on account of the different appropriations and all employees grouped in one roll, please advise me.

I cannot see that the method of writing checks with

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The Director of the Mint

Washington, D.C.

August 13, 1910

Sir:

In accordance with the approval contained in your letter of the 8th instant, I have this day requested Mrs. Kate E. Kennedy, formerly Forewoman of Selectors at this Mint at \$3.50 per diem, to report for duty here on August 16th, 1910 as Selector at \$2.50 per diem.

Respectfully

Frank M. Downer

Superintendent

[76]

The Director of the Mint

Washington, D.C.

August 1[?], 1910

Sir:

Referring to the wastage in the Ingot Room of this Mint during the fiscal year 1910 and to my letters of July 15th and 25th, 1910, respecting same, I have to enclose herewith copy of a letter directed to the Melter & Refiner of this Mint which I believe is self explanatory.

Respectfully

Frank M. Downer

Superintendent

[77]

Mr. J. W. Milsom

Melter & Refiner, U.S. Mint

Denver, Colorado

August 13, 1910

Sir:

Referring to the wastage in the ingot room for the fiscal year 1910, to our numerous conversations respecting that wastage during the time our annual settlement was in progress and since that time, you will recall that I requested you to furnish me a statement in detail showing the actual wastage in the ingot room during the fiscal year 1909 and the fiscal year 1910. On or about July 15th, 1910, you did furnish me a statement as follows:

Comparative Statement of Ingot Room Gold Wastage, 1909 - 1910.

1909, Metal sent to Ingot room 2,866,333.080

Legal allowance for wastage, 2,866.333

Loss 296.400

Percentage of Legal Allowance, 10.3

This loss was determined in the following manner:

The M. & R. Department surplus for 1909 was 909.732

Deduct Refinery surplus 599.686

Assayer's surplus 19.721

Deposit grains and vault sweepings, 38.942; 658.349

Ingot Room apparent surplus, 251.383

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which included a number of improper credits (all of which items are excluded from the 1910 annual report) as follows:

Deposit Melting Room metal 231.489

“ “ “ tails 30.550

Gain on ingots 116.820

Well metal, 98.544

“ tails 70.380

Total improper credits, 547.783

Apparent surplus as above 251.383

Loss 296.400

1910. Metal sent to Ingot room 1,842,227.820

Legal allowance for wastage 1,842.227

Loss 326.386

Percentage of legal allowance, 17.7

The object of this comparative statement was of course to enable me to determine, if possible, whether the wastage during 1910 was in fact an abnormal one. As I remember you stated to me that, owing to the fact that considerable bullion had during 1909 gone to the benefit of the ingot room which did not properly belong there (including recoveries from the deposit melting room and metal from the well) and that it was difficult to determine exactly what the wastage was during 1909, you had arrived at your conclusions by a process of elimination, as shown in your statement. The wastage shown - 296.400 standard ounces, or 10.3 per cent of the legal allowance - while considerably less than the wastage of

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17.7 per cent in 1910 did not show a marked difference, but did indicate that there was a considerable wastage in each of the years 1909 and 1910.

Accepting your figures for 1909 showing a wastage of 296.400 standard ounces as approximately correct, I stated in a letter to the Director of the Mint discussing the wastage in the ingot room, under date of July 15th, 1910, that the percentage of wastage in 1909 was 10.3. I find, however, after a thorough investigation made by myself personally that the wastage in the ingot room of this Mint during the fiscal year 1909 instead of being 296.400 standard ounces, was probably not over 60 standard ounces. I regret exceedingly that my letter to the Bureau of July 15h was predicated on a statement so incorrect and misleading.

In making this investigation, I first took the book showing the operations in the ingot room for the fiscal year 1910 and went over it day by day and set down each day's loss or gain as shown therein, which, when totaled, proved that the apparent wastage for 1910 from ingot melting was 1,024.48 standard ounces. I then took the book which shows the recoveries of metal on account of the ingot room, and found that the total of that item

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was 612.393 standard ounces, to this sum was added 37.544 standard ounces in tailings which were turned over to the Superintendent and by him sold to the Smelter. This total of 650.437 agrees within a small fraction of the amount shown on your Settlement Statement, Form 900. To this was added 47.718 standard ounces which the Assayer's determinations found to be tailings resulting from the treatment of material in the Sweeps Cellar from the ingot room turned over to me at settlement, and this total of 698.155, deducted from the apparent wastage of 1,024.48 (noted above), leaves a wastage of 326.33 standard ounces which practically agrees with the wastage shown on your Settlement Statement for 1910, Form 900.

I adopted precisely the same method for determining the wastage for the fiscal year 1909, and had but little difficulty in arriving at the wastage during that year. The books covering these operations are kept by Mr. Hetrich so neatly and plainly and all of the details were set out so clearly and fully that the task was a comparatively easy one. My figures on the 1909 operations were submitted to Mr. St John, clerk in your office, and, after some slight corrections and changes, were verified by him.

The figures for 1909 show an apparent wastage in ingot

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melting of 702.05 standard ounces and recoveries (including 132.830 standard ounces in ingot room tailings) of 691.279 standard ounces. The wastage, therefore, for that year would appear to be but 10.77 standard ounces. You will understand of course that from the recoveries all Deposit Melting room and well metal was absolutely excluded. I observe, however, that in your estimate you credit to the deposit melting room tails 30.500 standard ounces, and to the well tails 70.380 standard ounces of the total 132.830 standard ounces in the ingot room tailings. This of course, is, I presume, purely an estimate by you, and I understand clearly that it is probably the case that the tailings that year contained metal from the ingot room, the deposit melting room and the well, and the amount derived from each place can only be estimated.

Assuming for the moment that your estimate is correct, and that but 31.900 standard ounces of these tailings properly belonged to the ingot room, we have a wastage in 1909 of but 111.70 standard ounces as against 326.386 standard ounces in 1910.

Your estimate of 70.380 standard ounces of tails from well material seems quite large, and I have called in Smith, Foreman of the Sweeps Cellar, and he informs me that from the data he has (which he admits is not complete), he estimates the metal

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in the well tails that year at 15.75 standard ounces which, if approximately correct, would leave the wastage for 1909 at 57.05 standard ounces, or, as I have stated heretofore in this letter, not over 60 standard ounces.

We have discussed at various times the matter of gain on ingots, and I confess I have been considerably confused with respect to the real effect of that item. I think I am clear on it now, however. I believe that the item of 116.82 standard ounces gain on ingots simply represents what would have been an additional wastage had all of the ingots returned been exactly 900 fine. Inasmuch, however, as that item has been eliminated from both years, it has no bearing at all on the questions I am endeavoring to determine, viz: Was the wastage in ingot room in 1910 excessive and was the wastage in 1909 the same proportionally or substantially the same!

My investigation shows, -

FIRST. That in 1909, 2,866,333.080 standard ounces were operated on in the ingot room on which the wastage was probably not over 60 standard ounces, or .0209 per cent of the legal allowance.

SECOND. That in 1910, 1,842,227.820 standard ounces were operated on in the ingot melting room on which the wastage was actually 326.386 standard ounces, or 17.7 per cent of the legal

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allowance.

THIRD. That in 1909, 463 ingot melts of approximately 5,000 ounces each were made, upon which the apparent wastage (that is, the wastage before any recoveries are taken into account), was 702.05 standard ounces, while in 1910, 293 ingot melts of the same size were made upon which the apparent wastage was 1,024.48 standard ounces.

FOURTH. That the apparent wastage suddenly increased in March, 1910, as shown by the following figures which I have gathered in my investigation:

1910

Number of Melts. Apparent Wastage.

January, 48 112.42

February, 46 102.51

March, 54 190.70

April, 52 223.94

May, 50, 213.20

June, 43 181.71

Total, 293 Total, 1024.48

Taking into account the 70.588 standard ounces of gold recovered in the second clean-up made under my direction, the wastage in ingot melting in 1910 appears to be 255.798 standard ounces gold.

From the time the amount of the wastage from 1910

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operations came to my attention, I have been unable to regard it otherwise than as a very serious matter and as something that must be looked into thoroughly to the end that the cause or causes of the excessive wastage in the ingot melting room be, if possible, ascertained and removed.

My deliberate conclusion from the facts and figures I have gathered after an exhaustive investigation, is that the Government has lost through some cause or causes, not yet determined, a considerable amount of gold bullion. What I mean by that is, that this loss to the Government considerably exceeds what could be regarded as a reasonable or legitimate loss in ingot melting, it being recognized of course that there must be some loss in these operations.

I have just concluded my investigation and regret that you are not here so I might discuss this matter with you. I am writing this letter at this time while I have all of these facts and figures fresh in my mind, so that I may have some permanent record of the result of my investigation and my conclusions therefrom. I will send a copy of this letter to the Director of the Mint so that the Bureau may be fully advised respecting what has been done here relative to this matter, since my letters to the Director of July 15th and 25th, 1910, copies of which letters you have seen.

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You will please direct your clerk to furnish me daily hereafter, through my Chief Clerk, a statement showing the apparent wastage in the ingot room of the day previous and also showing what recoveries, if any, have been had.

You will also cause the men in charge in the ingot room to turn over to you or your representative, to be locked up in your vault at the close of each day's business, recoveries of metal of any kind whatsoever including pot scrapings, ingot room grains and ingot kings.

Respectfully
Frank M. Downer
Superintendent

[86]

Director of Mint
Washington, D.C.

August 16, 1910

Please have shipped, as soon as possible, six pairs double eagle dies.

Downer
Superintendent

[87]

The Director of the Mint
Washington, D.C.

August 16, 1910

Sir:

I have to advise you that the resignation of Mr. R.C. Morrison, Foreman, Ingot Room, tendered at my request, was operative at the close of business on August 15th, 1910, and his name has accordingly been dropped from the rolls of this institution.

Respectfully
Frank M. Downer
Superintendent

[88]

The Director of the Mint
Washington, D.C.

August 16, 1910

Sir:

Referring to the return on bullion shipment No. 2 from the United States Assay Office at Salt Lake City, enclosed herewith, I have to say that the Salt Lake Office, as shown by its invoice to us, failed to observe the provision of the "Table of Charges" forbidding less than five thousandths silver parts to be reported for the benefit of the depositor, but I regarded it as best in this instance to make the same allowance to the Salt Lake Office that it had erroneously calculated, notifying Salt Lake of the rule in the "Table of Charges".

Respectfully
Frank M. Downer
Superintendent

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The Director of the Mint
Washington, D.C.
August 17, 1910

Sir:

Referring to your letter of the 5th instant and to Department circular letter of July 1st, 1910, transmitted therewith, I have to request authority to purchase the following pin point typewriter which will enable me to comply with paragraph No. 3 of said circular letter:

One No. 11, B Carriage, Remington, with combination indenting type, keyboard #452, and Wahl adding and subtracting attachment and one #11-F Totalizer for the net sum of \$220.00

In addition to using the above machine for writing checks, it will be extremely useful in the Cashier's office in making out his numerous statements.

I have also to request authority to purchase -

One No. 10 B Carriage, Remington, with No. 6 Elite type, for the net sum of \$84.00 this machine to be used for general tabulating work and making out copies of inventories of shipments

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from the Assay Offices, there being only one machine in this Mint at the present time on which said work can be done and that is very poorly adapted for the purpose.

Respectfully
Frank M. Downer
Superintendent

[91]

Director of the Mint
Washington, D.C.
August 18, 1910

Could not well spare Moessner before September tenth. Machine is working satisfactorily on eagles. Expect to follow immediately with double eagles. Will need Moessner to get machine in shape for that work. He thinks tubes and channel on machine here will take care of double eagles satisfactorily.

Downer
Superintendent

[92]

The Director of the Mint
Washington, D.C.
August 18, 1910

Sir:

I have to enclose copy of letter of the 17th instant from The Harvey Glove Company, of this city, relative to ten dozen pairs of buck gloves which were manufactured by said firm in anticipation of getting the annual contract for gloves from this institution a year ago.

We have no contract for gloves during the present fiscal year and inasmuch as the gloves obtained from Philadelphia have proved unsatisfactory to the Bureau, I have to request authority to accept the gloves referred to at \$14.00 per dozen as all that have been furnished by the Harvey Glove Company have proven extremely satisfactory and our stock is practically exhausted.

Respectfully
Frank M. Downer
Superintendent

[93]

The Director of the Mint
Washington, D.C.
August 17, 1910

Sir:

I have to enclose the reports of absence and efficiency of the employees in the various departments of this institution for the month of July, 1910.

Respectfully
Frank M. Downer
Superintendent

[94]

The Director of the Mint
Washington, D.C.
August 19, 1910
Sir:

I have to forward herewith four copies of my report setting forth the cost of operations in the various departments of this institution for the month of July, 1910.

Respectfully
Frank M. Downer
Superintendent

[95]

Director of the Mint
Washington, D.C.
August 19, 1910
BULLION FUNDS NEEDED AT NEW YORK.
Downer
Superintendent

[97]

which would be required to make accurate drawings and blue prints of this device.

I will, however, endeavor to forward you on Monday a letter from Mr. Baldwin explaining in detail the operation and construction of this machine.

Respectfully
Frank M. Downer
Superintendent

[98]

The Director of the Mint
Washington, D.C.
August 22, 1910

Sir:

As requested by your letter of the 19th inst. I have to return herewith voucher No. 300, "Contingent Expenses for June, 1910," certified as to the receipt of material enumerated thereon.

Respectfully
Frank M. Downer
Superintendent

[99]

The Director of the Mint
Washington, D.C.
August 22, 1910

Sir:

I have to return herewith memorandum of settlement for bullion shipment No. 5 from the U. S. Assay Office at Seattle, which was enclosed with your letter of the 19th inst. (A.A.H.)

By a clerical error the silver fineness of bar No. 173 was set down as .095, whereas the proper fineness was .098.

Respectfully
Frank M. Downer
Superintendent

[100]

The Director of the Mint
Washington, D.C.

August 22, 1910

Sir:

Referring to your letter of the 8th inst., I have to furnish you herewith the percentage in workmanship and conduct of the several selectors who have been furloughed:

Name Date of Furlough 1910 Workmanship Conduct

Eva B. Terrill July 25th 71.13 100%

Elsie Chase " 28th 93.50 100%

Elizabeth Y. Turner " 28th 97.46 100%

Mabel Z. DeFrantz " 29th 84.01 100%

Clair D. Vardie " 30th 77.50 100%

Olive E. Adams " 30th 76.78 100%

Effie E. Jones " 30th 100.00 100%

Mary A. Lindquist Aug. 1st 86.71 100%

Ethel M. Onion " 2nd 77.05 100%

Lucy C. Maurer " 2nd 83.75 100%

Margaret Littrell " 2nd 100.00 100%

Grace A. Wood " 2nd 77.70 100%

Ella Russell " 2nd 83.03 100%

Catherine Kavanagh " 2nd 85.05 100%

Beatrice M. Dean " 3rd 82.44 100%

Lucille Hamilton " 4th 91.62 100%

Kate E. Kennedy " 4th 100.00 100%

Edith Sindlinger " 3rd 100.00 100%

Respectfully

Frank M. Downer

Superintendent

[101]

The Director of the Mint

Washington, D.C.

August 22, 1910

Sir:

Referring again to your letter of the 17th inst., respecting a reducing, or "shaving," machine which we have in use at this institution, I have to enclose herewith, as promised in my letter of the 20th, a letter from Mr. Baldwin explaining in detail the operation and construction of this machine.

One point touched upon by Mr. Baldwin I desire to emphasize particularly, and that is that much of the success in the operation of this machine depends upon the proper

handling of it, and it is all important that the man who is in charge of it shall be, first, a mechanic, and he should also be familiar with the processes involved in milling and striking coin. The man in charge of the machine here is Mr. J. B. LaVeille, Jr., who is Asst. Foreman of the Coining Room.

I regret exceedingly that we have but one of these machines here, and that I cannot furnish one for trial at the Philadelphia Mint.

The idea of this device was first conceived by Mr. Baldwin, and the machine was made in accordance with

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those ideas by Mr. Thomas Charlton, Foreman of our Machine Shop. The first machine made was somewhat crude, and as the faults in it developed, they were overcome by Mr. Charlton, and the one we have now in use and which is giving excellent satisfaction, is the final result of numerous experiments.

Permit me to make a suggestion with respect to supplying this device to the Mint at Philadelphia, if it is deemed by the Bureau to be of sufficient importance to warrant the expense involved. As I have stated, Mr. Charlton made this device; he is thoroughly familiar with its construction, and with the principle upon which it is operated, and he, better than anyone else I believe, could make a duplicate of it. I have granted Charlton 21 days' leave commencing Sept. 2nd. It has occurred to me that he might like to go to Philadelphia, his old home, for his vacation, and if the Bureau would be willing to pay his expenses from Denver to Philadelphia and return, he could oversee the making of this device in the Shop there, his time while being engaged in that work of course being paid for by the Philadelphia Mint, and added to the granted leave.

I of course simply make this as a suggestion, and if you would care to put it into effect Mr. Charlton could leave here before September 2nd on his leave.

I am so certain that we have solved the problem of adjusting planchets by machinery, that I do not hesitate

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to make the suggestion as outlined above.

We here are of course at present hampered by the fact that we have but one automatic weighing machine. I am convinced, however, that when we receive two additional automatic weighing machines, it is a conservative estimate, that with the three automatic weighing machines working in conjunction with this shaving device, we can turn out daily from 20,000 to 25,000 pieces of finished coin, which of course in double eagles would amount to from \$400,000 to \$500,000.

Respectfully

Frank M. Downer

Superintendent

[104]

The Director of the Mint

Washington, D.C.

August 23, 1910

Sir:

I have to knowledge receipt of copy of a letter addressed to the Director of the Mint, dated Aug. 16, 1910, signed by Richard C. Morrison (formerly foreman of the ingot melting room of this Mint) with the following endorsement thereon.

Treasury Department,

Bureau of the Mint.

Aug. 20th, 1910

Respectfully referred to the Superintendent U. S. Mint, Denver, Colorado, for such reply as he may think advisable to make.

(Signed) R. E. Preston,

Acting Director of the Mint

I have to say that the services of Mr. Morrison were dispensed with here in accordance with request contained in your letter of August 2nd, 1910.

I cannot bring myself to dignify with a reply the malicious and unwarranted statements of this discharged

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employee, unless requested so to do by the Bureau, in which event I will make a detailed reply to the statements of Mr. Morrison in so far as they refer to myself personally and to the administration of the affairs of this Mint by its Superintendent.

Respectfully

Frank M. Downer

Superintendent

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Referring to the estimate for appropriations for Salaries of Officers and Clerks, I have to say that I have recommended an increase in the compensation of four of the employees here as follows:

Chief Clerk from \$2500 to \$3000 per annum.

Cashier from \$2500 to \$2750 per annum.

Bookkeeper from \$2000 to \$2250 per annum.

Weigh Clerk from \$2000 to \$2250 per annum.

I respectfully and earnestly request that my recommendations with respect to these four positions be given favorable consideration. These positions in this Mint are filled most acceptably by the present incumbents. The responsibilities in each case are considerable, and I know of no way in which appreciation of long, faithful, and efficient service in these particular places can be shown, except by an increase in compensation, there being no opportunity to show it by promotion.

I desire to refer especially to the position of Chief Clerk, and to express my belief that the occupant of that position in a Mint should receive a salary at least equal to that received by an operative officer. His responsibilities are great. He is the direct representative of the Superintendent, and acts for him when that officer is absent.

Mr. E. P. Leech, Chief Clerk at this institution, has given the best years of his life to the service of the Government, having been in the Mint and Assay Service for more than twenty years. I regard him as a most capable and faithful assistant, who surely, in my opinion, would

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not be overpaid if his monthly compensation were fixed at \$250.

I have eliminated from the estimate for appropriations for Salaries of Officers and Clerks one clerk, class one, at \$1200, which has been formerly carried in our appropriation, but which has not been used for a number of years, so that if these increases are made as recommended, the total of that item would be increased but \$50.

Referring to the estimates for appropriation for Incidental and Contingent Expenses for the fiscal year 1912, my estimate is \$10,000 less than the appropriation for this year, and I am satisfied that the \$30,000 recommended will be entirely adequate.

Respectfully
Frank M. Downer
Superintendent

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The Director of the Mint
Washington, D.C.
August 25, 1910
Sir:

To enable me to meet the expenditures for the month ending September 30, 1910, on account of the appropriations made for the support of this institution for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1911, it is that you cause a requisition to be made upon the Secretary of the Treasury for the following amounts, with which I am to be charged and help responsible under my bond dated June 23, 1908, viz:

Salaries, \$3,000
Wages of Workmen, \$7,000
Contingent Expenses, \$1,000
Partg. + Rfg., \$2000
Total, \$13,0000

Respectfully
Frank M Downer
Superintendent

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The Director of the Mint

Washington, D.C.

August 26, 1910

Replying to your inquiry of the 23rd inst. (A.A.H.) I have to state that all melts for anodes are made in the refinery melting room of this institution. In no instance have we made an anode melt elsewhere.

Respectfully

Frank M. Downer

Superintendent

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The Director of the Mint

Washington, D.C.

August 27, 1910

Sir:

Replying to your letter of the 23rd inst. (A.A.H.) inquiring if deposits are chipped by the Assayer on their return to the Deposit Weigh Room before or after they are reweighed by the Deposit Weigh Clerk, I have to enclose a statement in the premises by Mr. Hodgson, Assayer.

I would say that after careful consideration of the system as explained by Mr. Hodgson, I have concluded that our former practice of having the Weigh Clerk weigh the bar after melting before the Assayer chips it was more conducive to the best results from the standpoint of both the Government and Depositor, and I have directed that the recent practice of the Assayer of chipping the bar before the Weigh Clerk has weighed it be abandoned, and the former method re-established.

Respectfully

Frank M. Downer

Superintendent

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The Director of the Mint'

Washington, D.C.

August 29, 1910

Sir:

As requested by your telegram of even date, I have to enclose a statement setting forth the names, designations, and actual compensations paid employees of this institution

(other than workmen and adjusters) from the Wages Appropriation for the fiscal year 1910.

Respectfully
Frank M. Downer
Superintendent

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The Director of the Mint
Washington, D.C.
August 29, 1910

Sir:

For some time past my Cashier has found it necessary to secure the minor coin required for his payments from one of the banks in Denver, and quite a little of this coin has been of inferior appearances, due to considerable usage before it reached him. He and I naturally would prefer that all coin paid over the counter here should be of a character that would preclude criticism by parties to whom it is paid.

I will therefore appreciate it if you will arrange, for my Cashier's use, a transfer from the Mint at Philadelphia of \$800 in nickels, and \$200 in pennies.

Respectfully
Frank M. Downer
Superintendent

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The Director of the Mint
Washington, D.C.
August 30, 1910

Sir:

As requested by your letter of the 22nd inst. (A.A.H.) I have to enclose statements by the Melter & Refiner and Coiner of this institution setting forth the number of standard ounces of gold and silver operated upon in their respective departments during the fiscal year 1910.

Respectfully
Frank M. Downer
Superintendent

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Hon. A. Piatt Andrew
Acting Secretary
Treasury Department
Washington D.C.
August 31, 1910
Sir:

I have to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 27th inst. relative to charges contained in a letter of Richard C. Morrison, formerly Foreman of the Ingot Melting Room of this Mint, dated Aug. 16th, 1910, a copy of which was forwarded to me by the Acting Director of the Mint under date of Aug. 20th, 1910. Agreeably to your direction, I submit herewith a reply in detail to the statements of Mr. Morrison, in order that a refutation of charges made by him shall be on file in the Department.

I have submitted the copy of Mr. Morrison's letter of Aug. 16th to Mr. Milsom, Melter & Refiner of this Mint, and forward herewith a letter from him covering some portions of the letter of Mr. Morrison.

I would say that during the first six months of the fiscal year 1910, or from July 1st, 1909, to Jan. 3rd, 1910, coinage operations were suspended at this Mint on account of lack of bullion. During that period I retained on duty the foremen of the various rooms, among them being Mr. Morrison, who was on different occasions detailed to assist in the Deposit Melting Room, which I presume, in a measure at least, accounts

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In the premises, I addresses him the letter of August 5th (which he correctly quotes) a copy of which also forwarded to the Bureau by me, requesting his resignation to take effect at the close of business Aug. 15th, and advising him that he could make a statement in the premises if he so desired, which statement I would forward to the Bureau. He did make such a statement – which he also sets forth in his letter of August 16th – and the same was forwarded by me to the Bureau, under date of August 6th, together with a copy of my letter to him of Aug. 5th requesting his resignation.

My purpose, of course, in somewhat modifying the instructions of the Bureau to dis-pense with his services by permitting him to tender his resignation to be effective as late as the 15th inst., and to file his own statement therewith, was to make it perfectly clear to him that I had no other desire than to furnish him every opportunity to clear up if pos-

sible, with the Department and myself, the matter in which he was involved. He thoroughly understood that the date upon which his resignation was to become effective afforded the Department ample time to consider his statement, and to change its ruling if it saw fit.

I come now to the specific charges set forth by Mr. Morrison in his letter of Aug. 16th numerically, taking them up in order, from Nos. 1 to 22, making a specific reply to each one except the few which are directly applicable to the Melter & Refiner and are therefore covered by Mr. Milsom in his communication enclosed herewith.

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No. 1. The Superintendent does, of course, in a broad sense, have knowledge of the methods employed, and that should be employed, preparatory to annual settlement in cleaning up the operative departments, but it is the practice here, and I apprehend at all Mints, to leave the details of this work to the experienced foremen of the various rooms, enjoining them, as I have always done, to perform the work thoroughly, recovering all metal possible.

No. 2. The reasons for the second clean-up are fully set forth in my letter to the Director of the Mint under date of July 25th, 1910, and I respectfully refer you to that letter. The Superintendent of this Mint has never attempted to forestall any investigation of its affairs, nor has he ever entertained any fear of an investigation of his administration.

No. 3 and No. 4. The clean-up made under my direction was of the furnace, condenser, and the one and only stack used in the ingot melting operations for the fiscal year 1910. It was the wastage for that year that I was endeavoring to recover. If the other stacks, which had no possible connection with the 1910 operations do contain the amount of gold stated by Mr. Morrison, it will be recovered at the next clean-up, and I am amazed that, with such apparently definite knowledge as to the contents of the other stacks, and in view of the wastage in the 1910 operations, which he admitted

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Nos. 3 and 4 cont. was very large, Mr. Morrison made no effort whatsoever to recover metal from those stacks, or from any other source in the Ingot Room, thus reducing his wastage. I am convinced that the work of cleaning up the one stack used in 1910 operations, done under my direction, was thoroughly performed by competent men.

No. 5. Covered by reply to No. 1

No. 6. The statement of Mr. Morrison respecting the intention of the Superintendent is entirely gratuitous. The other stacks will certainly be thoroughly cleaned prior to the next annual settlement, and such disposition be made of metal recovered therefrom, if any, as may be directed by the Settlement Officers.

No. 7. Covered in Mr. Milsom's letter. I have no previous knowledge whatsoever of the matter contained in this settlement of Mr. Morrison.

No. 8. I did direct that, during the six months' operations of the fiscal year 1910, Mr. Morrison should do actual melting. The facts with respect to this matter are as follows:

During the entire period of 1910 operations in the Ingot Room, we had barely enough gold bullion on hand, or in prospect, to keep that room even partly employed, by having it make but two melts daily, one in the forenoon, and one in the afternoon. We used but one furnace during the entire period. Therefore, I did not see then, nor do I now, what Mr. Morrison could do if he did not do the melting. He had, to

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No. 8. cont. assist him in the melting, two able bodied, experienced helpers, and in addition he had, at the time of the pouring of each melt, the assistance of two other men, one from the Make-up Room, and one from the Sweeps Cellar. The operation of pouring melts occupied from twenty to thirty minutes in the forenoon, and an equal amount of time in the afternoon, of each day. However, in my several conversations with Mr. Morrison respecting his year's wastage, he repeatedly stated to me, and in the presence of the Chief Clerk, Mr. Leech, that the wastage was large, that he could not account for it, that the work of the room had been exceedingly light, and for this last reason especially he was at a loss to explain the excessive wastage, as he had an abundance of time to exercise the utmost care in handling the melts. It was my desire to keep all branches of the several departments working during the six months' actual operations in 1910, even though with a small force, that induced me to consent to the performance of so small an amount of work in the Ingot Room.

I freely confess that the more economical way to carry on the work in the Ingot Room at that time would have been to add two or three additional men to the force there, and make six or eight melts daily instead of two. That course would, however, have rendered it imperative to furlough without pay frequently, and for considerable periods, the Ingot Room men.

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No. 13. cont. instance by the Assayer and Weigh Clerk jointly, as has the bar a little later after clipping, and the statement that in each weighing one hundredth of an ounce has inured to the Assayer or been lost to the depositor is preposterous. Nor is it the practice to scatter or drop grains in the process of sampling. They are all carefully gathered and added to the weight of the Assayer's clip.

No. 14. Very seldom any allowance whatsoever. When allowance is made for adhering foreign material as the regulations provide, the amount is strictly ascertained by the Weigh Clerk and Assayer.

No. 15. The Regulation governing the transit of bullion to and from the Deposit Melting Room in locked boxes, is strictly followed at this institution. The only bullion not so conveyed from the Deposit Melting Room is large bars that cannot be accommodated in the locked boxes, and which it would be impracticable to handle.

No. 16. This statement of Mr. Morrison is without semblance of fact. Slag is ground in modern mill and melted, being then poured in conical mould, the resultant button, if any, settling clean at the apex of the cone.

No. 17. There are regularly employed a working foreman and two melters in the Deposit Melting Room. The work varies from day to day according to number of deposits. On very heavy days and additional man is supplied as

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No. 17 cont. helper and cleaner. The force is entirely ample, and have had no complaint from foreman of this room.

No. 18. A thorough clean-up and tearing out of Deposit Melting Room furnaces and adjoining surfaces is made from time to time. Stack has never been overhauled for full length because this room does not shut down annually for settlement, and nothing in the stacks enters into the accounts. They can, of course, be cleaned and scraped at any time, but it would be an unwarranted expenditure to mutilate this stack very often, and would require a more or less extended suspension of melting of deposits to do so.

No. 19. The Sweeps Cellar was not in operation during the first half of fiscal year 1910. Upon return to duty from six months furlough of the Foreman of the Sweeps Cellar he immediately started treatment of accumulated sweeps from Deposit Melting Room, and my letters of Feb. 10th, 1910, and March 29th, 1910, to the Director of the Mint, discussed disposition of metal recovered from these Deposit Melting Room sweeps.

No. 20. The first part of this statement is covered in my answer to No. 13. Latter part of statement is covered by letter of Melter & Refiner.

No. 21. I willingly assume all responsibility for the number of employees ordinarily furnished the different Departments. I have as yet received no complaints as to embarrassing scarcity of help from responsible heads

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No. 21 cont. of Departments which have not been promptly and fairly considered, and if found meritorious, had my best efforts to remedy.

I do not altogether understand the reference of Mr. Morrison to the Assayer's Department, unless it be that he alludes to two men who are now on leave, one of them without pay, and both of whom are suffering from bodily ailments, which have no connection with their work at this Mint.

No. 22. I think my replied to Mr. Morrison's statements Nos. 1, 2 and 3 cover this. In addition I desire to say that at no time did I express any "expectation" regarding the procedure after these 25 melts were made. It was entirely unnecessary. The heavy wastage still existed, and it was reasonable to presume that Mr. Morrison would recover all possible metal – from these or any other melts.

This concludes my specific replies to the twenty-two charges of Mr. Morrison relative to the administration of the affairs of this Mint by its Superintendent. Recognizing, as I do, the malevolent and subtle character of his specifications, I have nevertheless endeavored to meet each one clearly and without the slightest evasion, and if, in any case, it appears to you they have not been so met by me, I would greatly appreciate it if you will frankly so advise me.

Respectfully
Frank M. Downer
Superintendent

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Hon. A. Piatt Andrew
Acting Secretary
Treasury Department
Washington, D.C.
August 31, 1910
Sir:

Referring to my letter of even date to you wherein, as requested by your letter of the 27th inst., I have replied specifically to certain statements made in a letter of Richard C. Morrison, formerly Foreman of the Ingot Melting Room of this Mint, to the Acting Director of the Mint under date of August 16th, 1910 – I have to say that I deem it advisable to acquaint you with certain facts relative to the character of Mr. Morrison which have come to my knowledge within the last few weeks.

During my recent investigation of the wastage in the Ingot Room of this Mint for the fiscal year 1910, I requested Mr. E. P. Leech, Chief Clerk of this Mint, who was at that time on vacation, to go to Colorado Springs and secure for me quietly certain information relative to Mr. Morrison, at the same time cautioning him to be careful that no injustice was done to Mr. Morrison. Mr. Leech did go to Colorado Springs on August 9th, and upon his return communicated to me

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verbally certain information that he had secured from former employers of Mr. Morrison. I have today requested him to reduce the substance of this information to writing, which he has done, and I enclose herewith his written statement to me, to which is also attached a letter from Mr. J. B. Daniels, Mgr. of the Portland Gold Mining Company's mill at Colorado City.

Mr. Morrison originally appointed as Asst. Melter in January 1906 from a list of eligibles certified to me by the local Secretary of the Civil Service Commission. Among his references at that time was my brother, Judge S. S. Downer, who has lived in Boulder for more than thirty years, and in whose judgement as to men I had, and have, the utmost confidence. My brother had known Morrison's family for a good many years, and had known Morrison himself as a boy, but was not, of course, familiar with his life and labors in the distant mills of the Cripple Creek District.

I am alluding to this so that you may clearly see that there is every reason why I personally should be favorably inclined to Morrison, as there is no doubt that both Mr. Milsom, who recommended him at that time, and I, who appointed him, were somewhat

influenced by the recommendation of a man of the standing of my brother, Judge Downer.

I am sending you these facts relative to the character of Mr. Morrison for the information of the

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Department and yourself. I would say that I have studiously avoided being influenced in any degree by this knowledge which I had of Mr. Morrison in dealing with him in this specific matter. As a matter of fact this information did not come to me until five days after his resignation was requested on Aug. 5th. I would say, however, very frankly, that my recently obtained knowledge with respect to Mr. Morrison did render me somewhat reluctant, as I stated in my letter to the Director of the Mint of August 23rd, to dignify with a reply the malicious and unwarranted statements of Morrison.

I have thought best to give you this information in a separate communication, as in making my specific replies in my letter to you today to the charges of Mr. Morrison, I have not been influenced in any degree by my present knowledge of the character of the man.

The information contained in Mr. Leech's letter to me enclosed herewith is in no sense confidential, nor is that of Mr. Daniels, and you are at perfect liberty, so far as either myself or Mr. Leech are concerned, to make any use of it that you may deem proper.

Respectfully
Frank M. Downer
Superintendent

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Hon. Frank M. Downer
Superintendent, Mint U.S., Denver
August 31, 1910

Sir:

Pursuant to your request that I set forth in writing the substance of the information furnished me on the 9th inst., at Colorado Springs, as your representative, by former employers of Richard C. Morrison, late Foreman of the Ingot Room of this Mint, I have to say: —

I was exceedingly careful, in talking with the gentleman hereinafter named, that no injustice should be done Mr. Morrison by me. I was particular to state that he was under no charge of dishonesty, but that certain recent work of his was regarded as seriously negligent in character, and that his line of talk in reference thereto was voluminous rather than luminous. And it was to quietly obtain their opinions, based on extended acquaintance with Morrison, as a former workman at their metallurgical plants, as to the reliability of his statements, that had chiefly influenced my coming to them.

I first sought Mr. Milliken, Supt. of the Golden Cycle Mining Company, who had employed Morrison years ago in the Requa Mill, at Cripple Creek, and was afterward his superior at the Union Mill, at Florence, Colorado.

Mr. Milliken, in the presence of Mr. McGarry, General

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Manager of the Golden Cycle Company, informed me as to his former employment of Morrison, and a twelve years' acquaintance with him. He distinctly stated his desire, also, to do Mr. Morrison no injustice; that during the period of his employment by him he had been a source of constant annoyance and suspicion, but that no act of dishonesty had been actually fastened on Morrison.

From time to time, as the results of his work were attended by suspicious circumstances, he moved him from place to place in the mill, but finally gave him to understand that he must find employment elsewhere. He expressed the firm conviction that Morrison was dishonest, but that he had shrewdly baffled detection.

Mr. Milliken's most emphatic stricture upon Morrison was that he was totally unworthy of belief, profuse in false statements of attempted explanations, eager to make charges against fellow workmen to the Management, and an all-around disturber. He had received letters from Morrison in recent years (even since his engagement at the Mint) asking reemployment, but in view of Morrison's knowledge of his (Milliken's) poor opinion of him, he regarded these letters as an impertinence, and had not replied thereto. He had, moreover, previously refused Morrison's requests for a recommendation to other employers.

As I was leaving his office Mr. Milliken concluded: "Mr. Leech, I tell you, on general principles, Morrison is a mighty good man to get rid of at the Mint."

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A call upon Mr. J. B. Daniels, Mill Manager of the Portland Gold Mining Company, elicited the information that he firmly believed, to use his own words, that Morrison was "crooked" in the mills of the Cripple Creek District and a "notorious liar" and disturber. When he (Daniels) assumed charge of the Portland Mill he found Morrison employed there, and immediately dispensed with his services, being actuated by his knowledge of the man in other mills. He stated that before entering the Mint service Morrison had plead with him for a recommendation, which he refused to furnish him.

Upon my return to Denver I received a letter from Mr. Daniels in further discussion of Morrison, which I attach.

Respectfully
E. P. Leech
Chief Clerk

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The Director of the Mint
Washington, D.C.
August 31, 1910
Sir:

As requested by your letter of the 26th inst. (C) I have to enclose statements from the Coiner and the Melter & Refiner exhibiting the amounts of shut-down expenses in their departments for the months of June and July separately.

I would say that the General and Assay Departments operated continuously, and there are, therefore, no shut-down expenses applicable to these departments.

Respectfully
Frank M. Downer
Superintendent

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The Director of the Mint
Washington, D.C.

August 31, 1910

Sir:

As requested by your letter of the 27th inst. (F.P.D.) I have to enclose a statement from Assayer Hodgson furnishing the information requested, and bearing on the assay of cupels here.

Respectfully

Frank M. Downer

Superintendent

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The Director of the Mint

Washington, D.C.

August 31, 1910

Sir:

Referring to your letter of the 26th inst., advising me of the detail of Mr. Thos. Charlton, Foreman of the Machine Shop of this institution, to the Philadelphia Mint to superintend the manufacture of a shaving or reducing machine similar to the one now in use here, and directing that Mr. Charlton report at Philadelphia as early as practicable, – I have to advise you that Mr. Charlton concludes his work at this Mint today, and leaves for Philadelphia tomorrow, equipped with all necessary information for the successful prosecution of his mission there.

In accordance with your arrangements, imparted to me, I have written the Superintendent of the Mint at Philadelphia that Mr. Charlton's per diem on the Philadelphia rolls will begin Sept. 1st, 1910.

Respectfully

Frank M. Downer

Superintendent

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Director of the Mint

Washington, D.C.

August 31, 1910

Sir:

Upon examination and count at the close of business on the 31st day of August 1910, I found the moneys in the hands of the Cashier of this Mint to be as follows:

Gold Bars 146.613 Std. Ozs
 Gold Coin \$385,969,692.50
 Silver Bars 744.27 Std. Ozs
 Silver Coin \$4,078,526.10
 Currency Gold Certificates \$30,550.00
 Minor Coins \$36.65
 Total \$390,078,805.25
 Frank M. Downer
 Superintendent

Cash belonging to Ordinary and other expense Acts = \$6148.49

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The Director of the Mint
 Washington, D.C.
 September 3, 1910
 Sir:

I have to forward herewith my report of absences in the various departments of this institution, for the month of August, 1910.

Respectfully
 E. P. Leech
 Acting Superintendent

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Adams, O. L.	- - -		100%	80
Beggs, W. H.	4		"	85
Bell, W. E.	- - -		"	80
Bowers, M. F.	25		"	85
Brady	- - -		"	85
Brierley, G. F. W.	14 2 -		"	95
Buck, R. H.	2 5 -		"	70

Bulkeley, R. C.	- - -		“	75
Campbell, W. G.	- 1 -		“	100
Chaffin, F. H.	6 3 30		“	100
Charlton, Thos.	- - -		“	95
Coffin, Edna	15 - -		“	100
Coffman, G. A.	- - -		“	95
Cogan, J. C.	11 - -		“	85
Cain, James.	- - -		“	90
Denckla, H. J.	10 1 30		“	100
Fribourg, A. L.	1 -		“	100
Haines, C. S.	10 - -		“	90
Heatley, Florence G.	1 -		“	95
Hill, G. M.	2 - -		“	90
Hinrichs, Oscar	8 4 -		“	100
Hobart, E. L.	- - -		“	80
Hume, F. N.	- - -		“	90
Jackson, M. T.	25 - -		“	85
Leech, E. P.	11 - -		“	100
Leykam, Joseph	- - -		“	90
Ligon, Asa	25 - -		“	85
McGreal, D. J.	17 4 -		“	95
Mansfield, C. A.	- - -		“	85
Metcalf, L. D.	1 - -		“	95
Moessner, E. F.	- - -		“	100
Monaghan, Peter, Jr.	2 7 1/2	3 days	“	85

Miller, E. D.	- 4 -		“	95
Newbury, C. A.	- - -		“	90
Perkins, T. D.	- - -		“	90
Perry, R. J.	- - -		“	85
Peterson, Ole	- - -		“	95
Phillips, J. E.	- 1 30		“	85
Phillips, B. E.	- - 30		“	100
Pumprey, H. J.	1 - -		“	95
[illegible]	- - -		“	[illegible]
Ryan, Patrick	14 - -		“	95

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Smith, E. G.	- - -		100%	85
Smith, Geo. H.	1 - -		“	80
Speer, J. T.	- - -		“	95
Tinker, J. F.	6 2 -		“	100
Tumlin, E. C.	- - -		“	85
Underhill, J. B.	- - -		“	90
Webster, R. C.	- 1 -		“	95
Wentworth, H. S.	- - -		“	95
Whitaker, A. S.	- - -		“	95
White, M. H.	11 4 -		“	100
Whitney, G. H.	- - -		“	100

Wilcox, S. B.	3 6 -		"	90
Willan, W. R.	7 4 -	6 days	"	85
Wilson, E. C.	7 2 30	4 hrs.	"	85

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The Director of the Mint
Washington, D.C.
September 6, 1910
Sir:

I have to acknowledge receipt of your letter of the 30th ult. enclosing copy of a letter received from the Assayer in Charge at Deadwood relative to difference shown by their balances in weighing bars. I have, as requested, submitted the copy of this letter to Mr. Moessner, Scale Repairer at this institution, and enclose herewith a letter from Mr. Moessner in the premises.

I have to say that Mr. Moessner could make the necessary repairs to these scales by going to Deadwood, or, if the scale were sent here he could put the scale in good shape in the shops here at the Mint, and probably could do better work because he has the tools and appliances here for performing this character of work.

Mr. Moessner thinks from the weight of the bars as given by the Assayer in Charge at Deadwood, one of which weighs over 1700 ounces, that they are perhaps too large for the scale which they have in use at Deadwood, as he does not think that particular scale is calculated to weight anything heavier than 1500 ounce bars.

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I find that we have here a balance which we were using in the Deposit Weigh Clerk's Office at the old Mint before we moved up here, which we are not now using. While this is quite an old scale, as I recall it did excellent service when it was in use at the old place, and Mr. Moessner could, if you so desire, put this scale in good condition, and we could ship it to the Office at Deadwood, together with all necessary information as to its

erection there: then, if you so desired, they could forward the scale which they are now using here, and Mr. Moessner could put that into good condition also.

Of course, if you so desire, however, Mr. Moessner could go to Deadwood, and he thinks that, with the tools which he could procure in some shop there, he could do the necessary work on the balances to put them in good condition.

The balances I speak of as having been used at the old Mint Mr. Moessner says have a capacity of 2000 ounces.

Respectfully
Frank M. Downer
Superintendent

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The Director of the Mint
Washington, D. C.
September 6, 1910

Sir:

Replying to your letter of the 1st inst. advising me of the approval of my Expense Accounts for the quarter ended June 30th, 1910, with certain exceptions, I have to say: –

Voucher No. 208, Denver Dry Goods Company, re three brushes at \$3.50 each, total \$16.50 – these were contract furnace brushes, and I enclose a statement to this effect to be attached to said voucher.

Item, one box of tape \$.50, covered by contract for white cotton tape, 1/2" wide, 2 doz. in box at \$.25 per doz.

Item 6 carriage duster at \$38.50 per doz – these were ostrich feather carriage duster No. 5, and the contract price of same was \$38.50.

Item of stamps, voucher #219 covered two rubber stamps in plain mounts, not over 2 1/2" long, type not over 1/4" high at 10¢ each, total 20¢, and one stamp longer than 2 1/2" and type not over 1/4" high 15¢, grand total 35¢.

I note your disallowance of 50¢ item contained in voucher #258, E. F. Moessner, covering a fee to hotel porter.

Respectfully
Frank M. Downer
Superintendent

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Item embraced in this voucher No. 208 under date of October first, 1909, covered three contract furnace brushes at \$5.50 each, total \$16.50.

Respectfully
Frank M. Downer
Superintendent

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The Director of the Mint
Washington, D. C.
September 6, 1910

Sir:

Replying to your letter of the 3rd inst., I have to say that my authority for making silver purchases at this institution is contained in a letter from the Director of the Mint dated August 15th, 1906.

Respectfully
Frank M. Downer
Superintendent

[145]

The Director of the Mint
Washington, D. C.
September 7, 1910

Sir:

I have to enclose communications from the Melter & Refiner and Foreman of Refinery of this institution setting forth the advisability of purchasing a certain motor generator set for our Refinery. Specifications covering this set are enclosed.

I have personally investigated the propositions advanced, and am satisfied that the installation of the motor generator set described is highly advisable, and will materially work for expedition and economy in the operations of the refinery. I therefore request

authority to invite competitive proposals to furnish the motor generator set covered by these specifications, and when received the proposals will be submitted to you for final award. The cost of this plant should of course be met by the Parting & Refining Fund.

Respectfully

Frank M. Downer
Superintendent

[146]

Director of Mint,
Washington D. C.
September 9, 1910

Automatic weighing machine is working with entire satisfaction on double eagles fully as well as on eagles or quarter dollars, which we considered fine.

Downer
Superintendent

[147]

The Director of the Mint
Washington, D.C.
September 9, 1910
Sir:

Referring to your letter of the 31st ult. (A.A.H.) discussing the preparation of, and certain figures exhibited on, forms 900 and 901, by the Melter & Refiner and Coiner of this institution respectively, I have to enclose statements in the premises from these officers.

Respectfully
Frank M. Downer
Superintendent

[148]

The Director of the Mint
Washington, D. C.

September 12, 1910

Sir:

I have to advise you that I have this day requested Mr. Nels A. Russell, who has been upon furlough and who was a pressman in the Coiner's Department, to return to duty as a Helper in the Refinery at a per diem compensation of \$3.50. Mr. Russell has been recalled to take the place of Harry R. Whitehead, Helper in the Refinery, who has been detailed to the Assay Department.

Respectfully

Frank M. Downer

Superintendent

[149]

The Director of the Mint

Washington, D. C.

September 12, 1910

Sir:

I have to advise you that I have detailed Harry R. Whitehead, Helper in the Refinery, at a per diem compensation of \$4.00, to the Assayer, for the present at least. This action is taken upon the request of the Assayer, and with the consent of the Melter & Refiner.

I would say that the work of the Assay Department has increased to a considerable extent of late, and Mr. D. A. Cowall, one of the regular weighers, is sick, and having exhausted his regular annual leave of 30 days, is now off without pay. It is hoped that he will be able to return to duty about Oct. 1st, but this is not at all certain.

Mr. Bowen, Assistant Assayer, is away on his leave, and has gone to Buffalo, New York, where he expects to undergo an operation.

Mr. J. H. Puckett, another of the weighers, has been away for some time upon his leave, returning about a week or ten days ago, but he contracted fever and ague while on his leave in Kentucky, and while he started to work again this morning, it is uncertain how long he will be able to continue at work.

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Mr. George J. Bucher, who was regularly employed in the Assay Department, but who was furloughed about a year ago on account of lack of work there, has declined to accept re-employment here as he has a good position with an outside concern.

Respectfully

Frank M. Downer

Superintendent

[151]

The Director of the Mint

Washington, D. C.

September 12, 1910

Sir:

I have to enclose, with my approval, a requisition by the Coiner of this institution for three collars for double eagles.

Respectfully

Frank M. Downer

Superintendent

[152]

The Director of the Mint

Washington, D. C.

September 12, 1910

Sir:

I have to transmit herewith form C. A. -4a, Claim for Compensation to Injured Employee, executed by Enos P. Schell, Skilled Workman in the Melter & Refiner's Department of this institution.

Attached to said Claim is form C. A. -2a, Report of Termination of Disability, executed by Mr. Joseph W. Milsom, Melter & Refiner.

Respectfully

Frank M. Downer

Superintendent

[153]

The Director of the Mint
Washington, D. C.
September 12, 1910

Sir:

I have to enclose my report of changes in employees of the various departments of this institution for the month of August, 1910.

Respectfully
Frank M. Downer
Superintendent

[154]

Director of Mint
Washington, D. C.
September 13, 1910

Can spare Moessner to go to San Francisco. Will need him here when other two automatics arrive. When can I expect them? They are badly needed. With but one machine we are greatly hampered in our work on double eagles.

Downer
Superintendent

[155]

The Director of the Mint
Washington, D. C.
September 13, 1910

Sir:

As requested by your letter of the 23rd ult., I have to enclose certified authority for J. P. M. Humphrey to endorse Mint Receipts, etc. for the Revenue Tunnel Mines Co. I also enclose an advice from the Denver National Bank that certified authority for George O. Dostel, Manager of the Collection Department of that institution, to sign for the bank will be secured at the next regular meeting of the Board of Directors. When this reaches me, I will promptly forward it.

Respectfully
Frank M. Downer

Superintendent

[156]

The Director of the Mint
Washington, D. C.
September 13, 1910

Sir:

Referring to your letter of the 9th inst., I would say that my Report of Absences for the month of August, 1910, should show Peter Monaghan, Jr. absent two days and seven and one-half hours.

Respectfully
Frank M. Downer
Superintendent

[157]

The Director of the Mint
Washington, D. C.
September 16, 1910

Sir:

I have to request authority to appoint for 30 days a telephone operator at this institution to look after the outside telephone service and house system service. This will enable me to permit our regular telephone operator to have her annual vacation of 30 days.

In other years when our telephone operator has taken her annual leave, I had available for the service one of the adjusters, but since the latter have been furloughed there is no one here who can take care of the switchboard.

The compensation to be paid this temporary employee would be the same as now paid our regular operator, \$50 per month.

Our operator desires to begin her vacation next Monday, and I would appreciate your authority by wire to appoint a temporary operator.

Respectfully
Frank M. Downer
Superintendent

[158]

The Director of the Mint
Washington, D. C.
September 19, 1910

Sir:

As per the instructions contained in your letter of the 10th inst., I have this day delivered to the Quartermaster, U.S.A., Denver, Colo., for shipment to the Assayer in Charge, U. S. Assay Office, Deadwood, S. D., two boxes weighing respectively 1017 lbs. and 179 lbs. and containing one bullion balance of 2000 oz. capacity, and case for same.

I have also mailed the Assayer in Charge at Deadwood instructions for erecting this balance prepared by Mr. Moessner, Scale Repairer of this institution.

Respectfully

Frank M. Downer
Superintendent

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The Director of the Mint
Washington, D. C.
September 20, 1910

Sir:

Referring to your letter of the 15th instant (K), requesting me to have Mr. Enos P. Schell, Skilled Workman at this institution, execute for transmission to the Bureau copy of Form C.A-1, "Immediate Report of Accidental Injury", I have to say that no copies of this form are on hand nor have any ever been received.

Upon receipt of a supply of Form C.A-1, I will have Mr. Schell execute one without delay.

Respectfully

Frank M. Downer
Superintendent

[159]

The Director of the Mint
Washington, D. C.
September 19, 1910
Sir:

Replying to your letter of the 13th inst. (K) relative to my construction of that part of Article 29, Section 3 of the Mint Regulations so far as it pertains to the working hours of employees, I have to say that all per diem employees – including those who have recently been put upon a per annum basis in accordance with the reclassification of July 1st, 1910 – are required to report for duty at 8 o'clock, and work until 4 o'clock; the officials and clerical force report for duty between 8:30 and 9 o'clock and work until 4 o'clock and later.

At the present time there are no exceptions to the above save in the Deposit Melting Room, where, owing to the fact that the deposits do not arrive at this Mint until 9 o'clock, the two melters employed therein are not required to report for duty until about 8:30, and when the work in said room is heavy these men are required to work until after 4 o'clock without extra pay in order to complete the day's work.

For the same reasons the employees of the Assay Department, consisting of Assayer's Assistant, three Weighers, and two Skilled Workmen, were formerly required to report for duty at 8:30. Since the pressure of work in that department, however, has been heavy, this practice has been discontinued, and these employees now report for duty at 8 o'clock and work until four.

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Regarding the method of keeping the time of employees and Personnel Reports, I have to say that the Doorkeeper enters the arrival and departure each day of all employees on Form No. 181 (copy enclosed herewith) filing the same in the office of the Chief Clerk on the morning of the day following. The Doorkeeper also notes on this Form the time of arrival and departure of officers and employees who for any reason enter the building outside of working hours; also time taken for lunch by such as leave the building is noted on this Form.

The Doorkeeper also reports all absences and tardinesses each morning on Form #346 (copy enclosed) which data is promptly entered in a Time Book.

A tardy employee is given a copy of Form #924 (copy enclosed) with the number of minutes which he is late marked thereon by the Doorkeeper, and said employee is required to present this slip to the Chief Clerk before one o'clock with explanation of such

tardiness. If the excuse is not satisfactory, deduction for the time lost is made on pay roll.

A record of the personnel of this institution is kept on the enclosed card, which has so far proven satisfactory. All changes of whatever nature are entered on this card as soon as they take place.

The report of Absence and Efficiency submitted to the Bureau, Form #644 (copy enclosed) is made up by the head of each department, and a copy kept in his office, and the time lost checked in the office of the Chief Clerk before transmission to the Bureau.

In conclusion I would state that the system employed of recording the daily time of employees at this institution by the Doorkeeper has been entirely adequate and forestalls possibility of error, and at the same time is convenient and expeditious.

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I cannot think of any improvements thereon that could at this time be introduced, and I feel that, considering our very limited force as compared with the Mints at Philadelphia and San Francisco, the installation of the clock system here would be an unwarranted expense and altogether inadvisable.

Respectfully

Frank M. Downer
Superintendent

[163]

The Director of the Mint
Washington, D. C.
September 20, 1910

Sir:

Referring to your letter of the 17th inst. (K) I have to enclose copy of the original order of this institution to the American Hard Rubber Company of New York City for goods covered by the bill of lading of July 14th, 1910.

Respectfully

E. P. Leech
Actg. Superintendent

[163]

The Director of the Mint
Washington, D. C.
September 20, 1910

Sir:

Referring to your letter of the 17th inst. (K) I have to enclose copy of the original order of this institution to the American Hard Rubber Company of New York City for goods covered by the bill of lading of July 14th, 1910.

Respectfully

E. P. Leech

Acting Superintendent

[164]

The Director of the Mint
Washington, D. C.
September 20, 1910

Sir:

Referring to your letter of the 17th inst., I would say that in the report for July of the number of redeposits, the figure 9 denoted the number of shipments, while the figures 125 denoted the number of bars comprised in those shipments. The same system governed the report for August.

Respectfully

E. P. Leech

Acting Superintendent

[165]

The Director of the Mint
Washington, D. C.
September 20, 1910

Sir:

I have to forward herewith four copies of my report setting forth the cost of operations in the various departments of this institution for the month of August, 1910.

Respectfully

E. P. Leech
Acting Superintendent

[166]

Director of Mint
Washington, D. C.
September 22, 1910
Have order from Treasurer for nineteen ten coins. Has Delivery number forty-eight, double eagles, been approved by Bureau, and can instructions your letter December fourth, nineteen nine, be now waived?
Downer
Superintendent

[167]

Director of Mint
Washington, D. C.
September 22, 1910
BULLION FUNDS NEEDED AT NEW YORK.
Downer
Superintendent

[168]

The Director of the Mint
Washington, D. C.
September 23, 1910
Sir:
Referring to your letter of the 20th inst. (K) confirming your telegram of even date authorizing me to recall an adjuster at \$2.00 per diem to serve during the telephone operator's absence, I have to say that the only adjuster that was familiar with the telephone operations is now employed elsewhere, and could not be secured for this temporary service.

After going over the matter, I have concluded that we can get along during the operator's absence without a temporary appointee by enlisting the services of our Conductor who understands telephone operation, and whose place as Conductor can be filled for a few weeks by another employee.

I desire to thank you just the same for your prompt and favorable action upon my request.

Respectfully
Frank M. Downer
Superintendent

[169]

The Director of the Mint
Washington, D. C.
September 23, 1910
Sir:

Referring to your letter of August 9th directing that local depositors of bullion be not paid therefor by checks drawn on the local depository banks, I have to say that since the receipt of this letter its provisions have been carried out, and Bullion Fund balances remain in the Colorado and Denver National Banks respectively as follows: \$57,271.09 and \$81,969.89.

It occurs to me that it might be well to deposit these balances in the Treasury, thus relieving my daily statement from carrying them, and if you approve I would be glad if you would secure me authority to turn them back by Certificates of Deposit.

Respectfully
Frank M. Downer
Superintendent

[]

The Director of the Mint
Washington, D. C.
September 23, 1910
Sir:

As requested by your letter of the 15th inst. (K) I have to transmit herewith Civil Service Examination Form No. 1800 executed by Enos P. Schell, and incident to the change in his designation at this Mint from Assistant Weigher to Skilled Workman.

Respectfully

Frank M. Downer
Superintendent

[170]

The Director of the Mint

Washington, D. C.

September 24, 1910

Sir:

To enable me to meet the expenditures for the month ending October 31st, 1910, on account of the appropriations made for the support of this institution for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1911, it is requested that you cause a requisition to be made upon the Secretary of the Treasury for the following amounts, with which I am to be charged and held accountable under my bond dated June 23, 1908, viz:

Salaries, \$3,500

Wages of Workmen, \$6,000

Contingent Expenses, \$1,000

Parting & Refining \$2,000

Total, \$12,500

Respectfully

Frank M. Downer
Superintendent

[171]

The Director of the Mint

Washington, D. C.

September 26, 1910

Sir:

As instructed by your letter of the 15th inst., I have to advise you that two 100 lb. boxes of bone ash XXX will be forwarded by the Denver Fire Clay Company through the local Quartermaster U.S.A. to the Superintendent of the San Francisco Mint tomorrow.

This bone ash will be delivered at the depot in Denver for the contract price to this institution for XX bone ash, \$3.20 per cwt.

The gross weight each box is 110lbs.

Respectfully

Frank M. Downer

Superintendent

[]

From the coin which I have examined it seems to me that the torch is perfectly reproduced, nor can I detect that the general surface of the coin is uneven or rough. It is of course possible that the two pieces, selected as they are at random, show these defects, and I would supplement Mr. Baldwin's suggestion that they be temporarily returned here for examination.

I would also respectfully suggest that some coin from other Mints, the execution of which more nearly meets the views of the Bureau be sent me for examination and comparison with ours.

Mr. Hempel at my request today increased the pressure to some extent with the result that the coin showed no improvement in distinctness, and the increased pressure appeared to cause a wire edge on the coin which of course would be a very serious defect from all standpoints.

Mr. Hempel sets all of the dies personally, and is at the press constantly when it is running and examines the coin minutely and continuously, and I would say that I have the utmost confidence in his skill and conscientious efforts.

Mr. Baldwin also is in the Coining Room many times each day, and is in thorough touch with the work at all times.

I do not need to say that it is the earnest desire of all of us at this institution to turn out nothing but

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high class work, and any suggestions to assist us in that direction will be gratefully received.

Respectfully
Frank M. Downer
Superintendent

[175]

The Director of the Mint
Washington, D. C.
September 27, 1910

Sir:

I have to transmit herewith form No. C.A.-1 executed by Enos P. Schell, Assistant Weigher, as requested by your letter of the 15th inst. (K).

Respectfully
Frank M. Downer
Superintendent

[176]

The Director of the Mint
Washington, D. C.
September 28, 1910

Sir:

Replying to your letter of the 22nd inst. (K) enclosing samples of gloves and mitts now being supplied the Mint at Philadelphia by Decker & Co., I have to say that such gloves as these will meet our requirements for goods of that character, and at \$8.75 and \$8.25 per doz. respectively I regard their purchase as advisable. Therefore, I will not accept the offer of the Harvey Glove Co. of this city for a certain stock of buck gloves remaining on their hands, but will thank you to secure for us from Decker & Co. supplies as follows, based on our probable requirements for the remainder of the fiscal year.

REFINERY:

6 doz. pair buck gloves No. 10
5 " " " " No. 10 1/2.

MACHINERY DEPT:

2 doz. pair buck gloves No. 9 1/2.

1 1/2 " " " " No. 10

1/2 " " " " No. 10 1/2.

also 3 doz. pair gauntlet gloves, fire and water proof for fire room work, sizes: 2 doz. No 10, 1 " No. 10 1/2. (This gauntlet glove should be similar to the Hansen railroad glove.)

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COINING DEPT:

2 doz. pair heavy buck gloves No. 8

2 " " " " No. 9

2 " " " " No. 10

2 doz. pair medium weight buck gloves No. 8 1/2

2 " " " " No. 9 1/2

Sample of medium weight glove forwarded under separate cover with your own glove samples. Have none on hand unused. This medium weight glove is needed in handling the blanks at the mills, the shaving machine, and at the automatic weighing machines.

6 doz. pair heavy buck mitts No. 9.

Respectfully

Frank M. Downer

Superintendent

[178]

The Director of the Mint

Washington, D. C.

September 29, 1910

Sir:

I enclose a letter from Mr. A. W. Gray, Secretary of the Board of U.S. Civil Service Examiners at the Denver Post Office, advising me that the Civil Service Commission has ordered an examination to test the fitness of Nels A. Russell for reinstatement to the position of Helper at this institution.

I think that this order for an examination of Mr. Russell was probably issued under a misapprehension. The fact is that Mr. Russell was furloughed because of lack of work July 29th, 1909, and furlough card issued him showing that his workmanship and con-

duct had been "Good", and the 4th paragraph on the back of the furlough card declares the period of eligibility for re-employment shall be three years. As Mr. Russell's furlough was an involuntary one, I take it that he can be re-employed within three years from the time of furlough without examination. I of course understand that in the case of a voluntary furlough taken by an employee

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his eligibility for re-employment is limited to one year.

I will thank you to advise me if possible upon receipt of this letter of your views as to Mr. Russell's case so that your reply may reach me by October 6th, the time limit set for the examination.

Respectfully
Frank M. Downer
Superintendent

[180]

The Director of the Mint
Washington, D. C.
September 29, 1910
Sir:

Referring to the matter of reinstatement of furloughed employees, I have to state that Clerk in the Melting & Refining Department of this institution, was granted a furlough without pay on November 8th, 1909, and in accordance with instructions in Bureau letter of December 13th, 1909, which stated that, "from January 1, 1910, the name of no employee in the Mint Service will be carried on the rolls more than fifteen days in excess of leave allowed by law", his name was officially dropped from our rolls January 17th, 1910.

I desire to know when the one year period of eligibility for reinstatement of Mr. Pughe will end. According to my interpretation of the matter it will be one year from January 17th, 1910, or January 17th, 1911, and I will thank you to inform me if this is correct.

Respectfully
Frank M. Downer
Superintendent

[181]

Director of Mint

Washington, D. C.

September 30, 1910

VALUE SEPTEMBER COINAGE, TWO MILLION, FOUR HUNDRED THOUSAND DOLLARS IN DOUBLE EAGLES AND THREE HUNDRED EIGHTYONE THOUSAND, FOUR HUNDRED DOLLARS IN EAGLES.

Downer

Superintendent

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Director of Mint

Washington, D. C.

September 30, 1910

BULLION FUNDS NEEDED AT CHICAGO.

Downer

Superintendent

[183]

The Director of the Mint

Washington, D. C.

September 30, 1910

Sir:

I have to advise you that I have this day requested Mr. D. Todd Howbert, Helper in the Coining Department, who has been on furlough since August 2nd, 1909, to report for duty Oct. 1st, 1910, as Helper in the Refinery at his former compensation of \$3.50 per day.

I would say that this action is taken at the request of Mr. Joseph W. Milsom, Melter & Refiner, and Mr. Howbert is recalled to duty to take the place of William S. O'Brian, who, having exhausted his regular annual leave, has been on leave without pay since Sept.

15th, 1910, and who, in all probability, at the termination of 30 days leave without pay, will be separated from the Service in accordance with regulations.

Respectfully
Frank M. Downer
Superintendent

[184]

The Director of the Mint
Washington, D. C.
September 30, 1910
Sir:

I have to request that a bond in the penal sum of \$5000 be forwarded for execution by Mr. D. Todd Howbert who has been on furlough since August 2nd, 1909, and whose former bond has lapsed.

Mr. Howbert will report for duty as Helper in the Refinery here on Oct. 1st, 1910.

Respectfully
Frank M. Downer
Superintendent

[185]

The Director of the Mint
Washington, D. C.
October 1, 1910
Sir:

I have to enclose certified authority as requested by your letter of August 23rd for George O. Dostel to endorse Mint receipts, etc. as Manager of the Collection Department of the Denver National Bank.

Respectfully
Frank M. Downer
Superintendent

[186]

Director of the Mint
Washington, D. C.
September 30, 1910
Sir:

Upon examination and count at the close of business on the 30th day of September, 1910, I found the moneys in the hands of the Cashier of this Mint to be as follows:

Gold Bars 88.092 Std. Ozs.
Gold Coin \$387,245,617.50
Silver Bars 641.16 Std. Ozs.
Silver Coin \$4,010,355.60
Currency Gold Certificates \$40,550.00
Minor Coins \$535.90
Total \$391,297,059.00
Cash belonging to Ordinary and other Expense Accounts - \$5,942.24

Frank M. Downer
Superintendent
F. H. C.

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The Director of the Mint
Washington, D. C.
October 1, 1910
Sir:

It occurred to me that you might like to know how the automatic weighing machine recently installed at this institution is working on double eagles. I have therefore requested Mr. Baldwin, the Coiner, to make a statement relative to the matter, and enclose a letter from him herewith.

You understand, of course, that with but one machine we are compelled to weigh the planchets with that, and when we have accumulated a stock of good blanks, and the same have been milled, bleached, and struck, we have to cease operations on blanks and use the machine for reviewing the finished coin. When our other two machines are received we can of course keep two of them at work on the planchets and the third one on the finished coin, and I think it is a conservative estimate to say that one machine will turn out in coin 25,000 pieces each day.

We have accumulated approximately one million pieces of quarter dollars which of course will have to pass through the automatic weighing machines before the close of the calendar year.

We are all greatly pleased with the operation of this machine as used in connection with the Shaving or Reducing Device. A portion of the planchets of course have to pass through the machine three times, which

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accounts for our being able to turn out a greater number of pieces of finished coin than of blanks.

If you can do so I would like to be advised when we may expect the other automatic weighing machines which are intended for this institution.

Respectfully

Frank M. Downer

Superintendent

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The Director of the Mint

Washington, D. C.

October 3, 1910

Sir:

Replying to your letter of the 30th ult. in regard to 75 ounces of proof gold received this day from the Mint at Philadelphia, I have to say that this amount was estimated by Mr. Hodgson, the Assayer, as necessary for his department or the next twelve months. In October, 1909, I received for him 75 ounces, which amount is just about exhausted.

I fully agree with you that the cost of preparing this proof gold should be met by this institution, and with your approval, if the Superintendent of the Mint at Philadelphia will prepare a voucher covering the cost of this work, I will be glad to pay said voucher by a check on our Contingent Fund.

I received with the gold a voucher executed by the Philadelphia Mint on the basis of \$20.67183 per ounce, or \$1,550.39 for the 75 ounces. This voucher will be paid as directed by your letter of the 17th ult. by check drawn against my Bullion Fund.

Respectfully
Frank M. Downer
Superintendent

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The Director of the Mint
Washington, D. C.
October 3, 1910
Sir:

I have to recommend Mr. William M. Bush, at present Melter in the Melter & Refiner's Department of this institution, at a per diem compensation of \$4.50, be promoted to the position of Foreman of the Ingot Melting Room at a per annum compensation of \$1550 vice Richard C. Morrison, formerly Foreman of the Ingot Melting Room, whose resignation was accepted on August 15th, 1910.

I recommend that this promotion and increase in compensation be effective from Oct. 16th, 1910. I enclose herewith a recommendation in the premises from Mr. Milsom, Melter & Refiner at this institution.

Respectfully
Frank M. Downer
Superintendent

[192]

The Director of the Mint
Washington, D. C.
October 4, 1910
Sir:

I have to enclose with my approval a requisition by the Coiner of this institution for one dozen traps for the automatic weighing machine baskets, these to be furnished by the Mint at Philadelphia. The necessity for these traps is set forth in the accompanying communication from Mr. Moessner, Scale Repairer.

Respectfully
Frank M. Downer
Superintendent

[193]

The Director of the Mint
Washington, D. C.
October 4, 1910

Sir:

Referring to the Cost Report for the month of August of the Mint at San Francisco which reached me this morning, it would appear that the bullion receipts in the Weigh Clerk's Office are given in gross ounces and not standard ounces as is the method followed by this institution under instructions from the Bureau of the Mint some years ago.

I would like to inquire if it is now permissible for me to furnish this information monthly in the Cost Report in gross ounces, which will of course considerably increase the receipts as now shown in standard ounces, and also, with the greater divisor, decrease the cost per ounce.

Would you kindly advise me of the value of acids used in the Refinery at Philadelphia during August, as the report does not seem to give it.

Respectfully

Frank M. Downer
Superintendent

[194]

The Director of the Mint
Washington, D. C.
October 8, 1910

Sir:

Referring to my telegraphic message of the 30th ult. requesting that bullion funds be placed to my credit with the Assistant Treasurer at Chicago, I observe that no funds have been so placed, and conclude therefore that it is desired the use of that account be discontinued. If such is the case I would like authority to deposit the balance remaining to my official credit in Chicago, amounting to \$.19, by C.D. payable to the Treasurer.

If such authority is given can I draw the check on Chicago and secure a C.D. at one of the local banks here for the amount, or should I send check to the Assistant Treasurer at Chicago?

Respectfully

Frank M. Downer

Superintendent

[195]

The Director of the Mint
Washington, D. C.
October 8, 1910

Sir:

I have to enclose herewith four copies of my report setting forth the cost of operations in the various departments of this institution for the month of September, 1910.

Respectfully

Frank M. Downer
Superintendent

[196]

The Director of the Mint
Washington, D. C.
October 10, 1910

Sir:

Referring to your letter of the 4th inst. as to the detailed procedure of operations in the various departments of this institution, I have to reply by number to the four paragraphs of your letter:

1. Bullion Deposits are received by the Deposit Weight Clerk, A. L. Fribourg, or his assistant, G. F. W. Brierley. When brought by Express Companies the Express Book covering each package of bullion is receipted by one of these gentlemen; when by registered mail the package is first entered in the Chief Clerk's Office, and upon delivery to the Weigh Clerk receipt is taken from him for said package. When deposits are made by individuals, receipts for the weight of same are immediately furnished these individuals by the Weigh Clerk. All deposits are opened by the Weigh Clerk or his assistant and weighed by one of these gentlemen and the weight checked by one of the Deposit Melters. The weight is immediately entered on the Weigh Clerk's record book with the name of the depositor, character of deposit, state, county, and mining property – if possible – from which it comes. Name of depositor, character of deposit, number and weight, is also entered on a card by the Deposit Melter.

The deposits, except in the case of exceedingly large bars, are delivered to the Foreman of the Deposit Melting Room by one of the weigh clerks in locked tin boxes, and after they have been melted they are returned with the descriptive card in the same receptacles. I deem it proper to say, however, that with our present system of dry-cleaning,

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the large bars are frequently so very hot when they are returned to the Weigh Clerk's Office from the Deposit Melting Room, that it is entirely impracticable to have them enclosed in these locked tin boxes for the reason that their heat would damage the box, even to the point of melting it. Wherever it is possible to do so the bars are returned – and always the case of small bars – in locked boxes according to the regulations.

The weight of the deposit after melting is checked by one of the Weigh Clerks and one of the Deposit Melters, and should the loss of weight in melting appear unduly large, an immediate investigation is made by the Weigh Clerk and Foreman of the Deposit Melting Room. If the results of this investigation are considered not entirely satisfactory, the matter is referred to the Chief Clerk of the Mint who personally makes a rigid inquiry into all the attending circumstances. The slag, if any, remaining from the melting of a deposit is immediately treated, and any gold or silver buttons recovered therefrom are added at the deposit fineness to weight of the bar, so that the depositor as far as possible may be safeguarded against a loss of value in melting.

The weight of the clip taken by the Assayer's representative is checked by the latter and one of the weigh clerks. The assay certificate giving the number of deposit, weight before and after melting and after clipping, its date of receipt, character, name of depositor, and desired disposition of the proceeds, is prepared by the Weigh Clerk, checked with his book record, and delivered to the Assayer's representative.

The operations of the Deposit Melting Room are under the immediate supervision of its foreman and the Weigh Clerk, also daily closely inquired into by the Superintendent and Chief Clerk.

2. When the assay of a deposit is completed, the Assayer enters the gold and silver determinations arrived at on the assay certificate, which is

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delivered to the Assayer's Calculating Clerk. The calculation of the deposit is made by the latter and also by the Superintendent's Calculating Clerk. The day's calculations of these two men, H. A. Baker and B. M. Phillips respectively, are submitted to the Warrant Clerk, Col. R. C. Webster, who checks them against each other. The Abstract Clerk, John T. Speer, also calculates the number of standard ounces gold and silver in each deposit. When the Warrant Clerk has determined that no variations exist in the calculations of Baker and Phillips, and that the same are entirely correct, he prepares the memorandum of returns for the depositor, and also the warrant, or certificate of deposit, covering the deposit, which, after being checked by the Abstract Clerk, is delivered to the Assayer for check and signature thereon. The certificate of deposit and memorandum of returns are then delivered to the Cashier's Office.

Asst. Cashier A. S. Whitaker fills in the certificate on the back of the warrant, giving the number and amount of check, name of payee, Bank or Sub-Treasury upon which drawn, or the fact if paid in coin, and enters this information on the Cash Book. Benjamin M. Phillips, Superintendent's Calculating Clerk, whose desk is in the Cashier's Office, then draws the check in payment of the deposit on the pin point typewriter. The check is then examined and compared with the warrant by Cashier Fred M. Chaffin himself, who initials the check. Warrant and check are then delivered to the Superintendent, who compares the check in all its details with the warrant before signing name, and who is further guided in signing the warrant itself by the initials thereon of the Warrant Clerk, R. C. Webster, Abstract Clerk, J. T. Speer, Assayer's Calculating Clerk, H. A. Baker, and the signature thereon of Mr. A. R. Hodgson, the Assayer.

Warrant and check are then returned to the Cashier's Office and if the

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payment is to be made by mail, the memorandum of returns and check with letter of transmittal – which is press copied – are placed in the mailing envelope, and before said envelopes are sealed or mailed they are checked against the deposits entered for payment that day on the Cashier's Counter Book, which book contains the name of the depositor and the amount of the payment.

I would say that in addition to the foregoing, the Cashier, before drawing any checks for a day's payment of deposits, is supplied by the Abstract Clerk, Mr. John T. Speer, with a report of the number of standard ounces gold and silver and the value thereof of the deposits, which must agree with the total payments by the Cashier for that day.

In order that I may know the progress of each bullion deposit from the time of its receipt by the Weigh Clerk to the time of its payment by the Cashier, I long ago adopted a sys-

tem which is in daily use in this Mint and which follows a form which I enclose herewith. This form for each deposit supplies the date and time of its progress from the Weigh Clerk until payment is made for the deposit by the Cashier, and should delay in the handling of this deposit at any stage occur, I may be enabled by entries on this form which follows exactly the progress of the deposit, to locate the party or parties responsible for such delay.

3. Transfers between the Superintendent and the Melter and Refiner and the Coiner are made by the Superintendent's Transfer Clerk, Mr. G. R. Whitney, Assistant Bookkeeper, acting in this capacity. At such times there are always at least two representatives present from the Melter & Refiner's Department, and two from the Coiner's Department, those from the Melter & Refiner's Department usually being Asst. Melter & Refiner J. M. Hetrich, and Skilled Workman Enos P. Schell, and from the Coiner's

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Department Asst. Coiner John C. Wells, and Clerk Edwin C. Ford. No accounts in these Departments are kept by Skilled Workmen.

The Transfer Accounts of Mr. Whitney are delivered to the Bookkeeper Mr. Henry J. Denckla, who charges or credits the Superintendent or Operative offices as the transactions may require. The Clerks of the Melter & Refiner and Coiner, Mr. Farnum St John and Edwin C. Ford, respectively, keep the accounts for those offices, and prepare daily reports which are signed by the Operative Officers and delivered to the Bookkeeper, Denckla; they also deliver to the Bookkeeper, as the Superintendent's representative, receipts for all bullion transactions between them and the Superintendent.

The Chief Clerk prepares and delivers to the Coiner receipts signed by the Superintendent for all coin delivered to the latter by the Coiner.

In the movement of metal between the different rooms of an Operative Department, it is the strict rule that at least two men shall at all times be in the presence of the metal. In the Coining Department Mr. J. C. Wells, Assistant Coiner, has his desk at the large scale in the Press Room, and weighs all the metal passing from room to room in that department, and keeps a detailed record of same. Mr. J. M. Hetrich, Asst. Melter & Refiner, acts in the same capacity for the Melter & Refiner's Department, weighing all metal going to and received from the various rooms.

4. In the Operative Departments daily records of supplies used are kept by the Foreman of the different rooms, and this date, together with all information for the monthly Cost Report is turned in to the Operative Officers who prepare this report so far as it touches their immediate departments.

The report of the operations of the Power Plant, Machinery and Carpenter Shops, and work of all mechanics, and this work as distributed by

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mechanics to the several departments, is prepared by the Foreman of the Machinery Department, Geo. M. Hill. His report comes to the Chief Clerk's desk, who advises each Operative Officer of the charges against his Department during the previous month for power, light and ventilation, supplies and labor furnished of every description.

The Operative Officers file the reports of their Departments with the Chief Clerk, who examines and carefully checks them, and employs them in tabulating the general coin-age costs or recapitulation sheets, who also prepares the report in so far as it pertains to the General Department, incorporating therein the reports as furnished by the Operative Officers.

Respectfully
Frank M. Downer
Superintendent

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The Director of the Mint
Washington, D. C.
October 10, 1910
Sir:

The following is my semi-annual requisition for blank forms and books required for the six months ending March 31st, 1911:

	FOR M NO.	COP- IES ON HAND	QUAN- TITY DE- SIRED	TITLE	SAM- PLE MARKE D
10/22	225	5	50	Count and Examination of Funds	A ✓
12/6/10	231-A	100	500	Cashier's Daily Statement of Bal- ances, etc.	B ✓

10/22	232	2	18	Statement of Balances of Bullion & Coin, etc.	C ✓
“	261-B	30	500	Statement of Checks Drawn by Superintendent	D ✓
“	320	50	100	Proposal for Special Supplies	E ✓
	417	0	2000	Card for Deposit Melting	F
“	436	0	25	Certification Sheet	G ✓
“	468	6	24	Tabulated Expenditures	H ✓
“	505	5	25	Request for Funds	I ✓
11/25/10	559	0	2500	Cashier's Daily Counter Statement	J ✓
11/23/10	560	0	2500	Silver in Exchange for Gold	K ✓
“	570	100	500	Cashier's Summary	L ✓
	644	0	100	Report of Absence and Efficiency	M
“	779	100	500	Transmitting Check for Payment of Supplies	N ✓
10/22	906	100	500	Memo. of Gold Bullion Redeposit- ed	O ✓
	938	25	100	Pay Roll	P ✓

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The Director of the Mint
Washington, D. C.
October 10, 1910
Sir:

As requested by your letter of the 5th inst., I have this day arranged with the Denver Fire Clay Company to ship the Mint at Philadelphia through the Quartermaster U.S.A., at the contract price of this Mint, 300 lbs of XXX bone ash, each 100 lbs. to be in separate lots. Consignor will render bill for this bone ash, in amount \$9.60, to the Mint at Philadelphia.

Respectfully
Frank M. Downer

Superintendent

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and presumably would fairly represent the coin from all melts or portions of melts.

This procedure also enables us to determine if at any time there should be an excessive oxidation resulting from the operations in the annealing room, and I would be glad to receive your views on the matter and to know if you do not think this is a wise precaution to take to safeguard the fineness of the coins which enter into our deliveries.

Respectfully
Frank M. Downer
Superintendent

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The Director of the Mint
Washington, D. C.
October 10, 1910
Sir:

Referring to my letter of this date in reply to your letter of the 4th inst. respecting the procedure in the Cashier's Office in making payments for bullion deposits, there is one item which I neglected to state:

Since the installation here of a pin point typewriter for writing checks, Mr. Chaffin has adopted the precaution of taking a carbon copy on a blank piece of paper which shows the date, payee and amount of each check drawn. The number of the check is then written on this copy in ink so that it can be fully identified, and this copy is then filed away so that if there should ever be any question as to the amount for which the check was drawn, we would save this exact copy of the check and could tell without any question at all respecting the amount for which it was drawn.

Respectfully
Frank M. Downer
Superintendent

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The Director of the Mint
Washington, D. C.
October 11, 1910

Sir:

Replying to your letter of the 5th inst. (K) in regard to certain gloves and mitts to be furnished this institution under the Philadelphia contract, I have to request that these goods be forwarded by express, if, as you express the opinion, their transportation by freight will delay them some weeks.

Respectfully
Frank M. Downer
Superintendent

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The Director of the Mint
Washington, D. C.
October 11, 1910

Sir:

I have to enclose herewith my report of absences in the various departments of this institution for the month of September, 1910.

Respectfully
Frank M. Downer
Superintendent

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Adams, O. L.	4	100	90
Beggs, W. H.		"	90
Bell, W. E.	23		On leave all month.
Bowers, M. A.			95
Brady, Daniel			95

Brierley, G. F. W.	2 4		90
Buck, R. H.	6 30		70
Bulkeley, R. C.			85
Campbell, W. G.	16 4		100
Chaffin, F. H.	2		100
Charlton, Thomas	9		On detail at Phila. Mint
Coffin, Edna	1 3 30		100
Coffman, G. A.	4 4		95
Cogan, J. C.			90
Denckla, H. J.	3		100
Fribourg, A. L.	3 30		100
Haines, C. S.	7		90
Heatley, Florence G.	16 4 30		95
Hill, G. M.	10		90
Hinrichs, Oscar	15 1		100
Hobart, E. L.			85
Hume, F. N.			90
Jackson, M. T.			90
Leech, E. P.			100
Leykam, Joseph			90
Ligon, Asa			90
McGreal, D. J.			95
Mansfield, C. A.			90
Metcalf, L. D.	20 4		95
Moessner, E. F.	6 4		100
Monaghan, Peter, Jr.			90

Miller, E. D.			95
Newbury, C. A.			90
Perkins, T. D.			90
Perry, R. J.			90
Peterson, Ole			95
Phillips, B. M.			100
Phillips, J. K.	11		85
Humphrey, H. J.			95
Robinson, A. W.			90
Ryan, Patrick	2 7		95
Smith, E. O.			90

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Smith, G. H.	1		95
Speer, J. T.			95
Tinker, J. F.	9		100
Tumlin, E. C.			95
Underhill, J. B.	23		On leave all month.
Webster, R. C.			95
Wentworth, H. S.			95
Whitaker, A. S.	8 4		95
White, M. H.	4		100
Whitney, Geo. R.	18 4		100
Wilcox, S. B.			90
Willan, W. R.	14 4		90

Wilson, E. G.			90
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The Director of the Mint
Washington, D. C.
October 12, 1910

Sir:

I have to forward herewith my report of changes in the Personnel of this institution for the month of September, 1910.

Respectfully

Frank M. Downer
Superintendent

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The Director of the Mint
Washington, D. C.
October 12, 1910

Sir:

I have to enclose an official bond in the penal sum of \$5000, and bearing even date, executed by D. Todd Howbert, Helper. Receipt for premium attached.

Respectfully

Frank M. Downer
Superintendent

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Director of the Mint
Washington, D. C.
October 31, 1910
Sir:

Upon examination and count at the close of business on the 31st day of October 1910, I found the moneys in the hands of the Cashier to be as follows:

Gold Bars 1221.615 Std. Ozs.
Gold Coin \$390,481,577.50
Silver Bars 1567.28 Std. Ozs.
Silver Coin \$3,573,932.55
Currency Gold Certificates \$59,000
Minor Coins \$473.27
Total \$394,114,983.32
Cash belonging to Ordinary Expense Account \$6,052.66

Frank M. Downer
Superintendent

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Hon. Geo. E. Roberts, Director of the Mint
Washington, D. C.
November 1, 1910
My dear Mr. Roberts:

During the month of October, just closed, we have operated our automatic weighing machine on gold exclusively, and on the denomination of double eagles, which is, of course, the most severe test to which it could be subjected. The machine worked eight hours every working day, and I do not believe it lost two hours time during the month. At the risk of repeating what I have heretofore written to the Bureau, I am writing this letter to advise you respecting what seem to me to be remarkable performances on the part of this automatic.

The Coiner made four deliveries of finished coin of a total value of \$3,585,000, or 179,250 pieces. The blanks passed through the machine at least once, and many of them three times. In weighing planchets we use a limit of .35 grains, thus keeping fifteen points away from the legal limit in both "lights" and "heavies" working always towards standard. All of the coin also passed through the machine, with the exception of about

30,000 pieces, which were weighed by Mrs. Kennedy at odd times during the 19 working days when the machine was weighing blanks exclusively.

The coin passes through the machine twice, being first separated into "lights" and "heavies", and then each of these lots are weighed to separate the good from the bad. In weighing coin we again use the .35 grains limit, and

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re-weigh all of the comparatively small number of pieces which are rejected by the machine with a .40 grains limit, thus saving some pieces. All coin varying from the standard by more than .40 grains is condemned. When working on coin, Mrs. Kennedy tests the work of the machine every ten or fifteen minutes to ascertain if each of the ten scales comprised within the automatic is weighing accurately.

Something more than three years ago, and when the work of adjusting and reviewing planchets and coin was performed by hand, I adopted what I believe to be a thorough plan for testing the deliveries. This system has been continued since we have been using the machine. This work is done by James Cain, Skilled Workman, who, prior to each delivery, weighs a large number of pieces from each draft as made up for delivery from the Coiner to the Superintendent, and reports to me on a specially prepared form. Cain has become quite expert in this work and is both rapid and accurate. Ordinarily, when we are working on the denomination of double eagles, he weighs and reports on fifty pieces from each draft, which, of course, amounts to 20% of the entire delivery. He weighed from the first delivery last month – October 25th – that per cent of the coin; from the other three deliveries not quite so many because of lack of time, as we were delivering \$1,000,000 every other day. However, to illustrate the character of work that is being turned out by our one automatic weighing machine, working in conjunction with our shaving or reducing device, I give you herewith the consolidated figures from the four reports on the four deliveries as made to me by Cain:

Total number of pieces weighed 28,460
Within .20 grains of standard 28,071
Between .20 and .30 grains of standard 315
Between .30 and .40 " " " 74

The importance of the reducing device in these operations should not be overlooked. The character of its work is best evidenced by the fact that

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I am hoping every day to be advised of the shipment of the other two automatics to us from Philadelphia. We have on hand more than 1,000,000 pieces of subsidiary silver coin which must be weighed and delivered before January 1st, 1911. I estimate that it will take one machine 40 days to weigh this lot. Would you not advise that we commence work on this subsidiary coin about Nov. 15th with the one automatic we now have?

Yours very truly
Frank M. Downer
Superintendent

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The Director of the Mint
Washington, D. C.
November 1, 1910

Sir:

Referring to my letter of the 4th ult. requesting one dozen traps for the automatic weighing machine in use here, said traps to be manufactured at the Mint at Philadelphia, and to your letter of the 7th ult. advising me that the order had been duly placed, I have to say that shortly thereafter six traps were received from the Mint at Philadelphia.

Mr. J. B. Baldwin, Coiner, advises me that these six traps are now in use, and he very much desires to receive, at the earliest possible date, an additional dozen. As we are using the machine exclusively on the double eagle – the very heaviest denomination, the wear on the traps reaches the maximum.

Respectfully
Frank M. Downer
Superintendent

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The Director of the Mint
Washington, D. C.
November 2, 1910
Sir:

I am in receipt of a communication from Mr. Thomas Charlton, Foreman of the Machine Shop of this institution, who is now on detail to the Mint at Philadelphia, advising me that he has written you requesting a permanent transfer to the east on account of the state of his health. I would say that I have had cognizance of Mr. Charlton's ill health during the past year and noted with regret his exceeding and rapid loss of flesh. If you can arrange his transfer from this institution to the east as he desires, it will be entirely agreeable to me, and I trust he may fully regain his health at a lower altitude.

Respectfully

Frank M. Downer

Superintendent

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The Director of the Mint

Washington, D. C.

November 4, 1910

Sir:

As directed in your letter of the 3rd ult., I am forwarding you herewith in duplicate an Inventory of Furniture & Fixtures, Machinery & Appliances, and Supplies on Hand, as of date July 1st, 1910.

I also return herewith the copy of the Philadelphia Inventory.

One copy of the Inventory for this institution has of course also been retained here, and, as suggested in your letter, at the end of each fiscal year, a corrected copy will be sent to the Bureau.

Respectfully

Frank M. Downer

Superintendent

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The Director of the Mint

Washington, D. C.

November 4, 1910

Sir:

Referring to your letter of the 17th ult., I have to advise you that the Reviewing Machine has been received from the Philadelphia Mint. I enclose herewith a letter from Mr. J. B. Baldwin, Coiner of this institution, making report upon the operation of this machine.

Respectfully
Frank M Downer
Superintendent

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The Director of the Mint
Washington, D. C.
November 9, 1910

Sir:

I have to forward herewith my report of changes in employees in the various departments of this institution for the month of October, 1910.

Respectfully
Frank M. Downer
Superintendent

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The Director of the Mint
Washington, D. C.

Sir:

Referring to your letter of the 8th ult. enclosing petition and papers with respect to the contributory plan of civil pensions, I have to say that, as requested, all of the employees individually in this institution have been afforded an opportunity to sign this petition. Your letter and the accompanying papers were likewise presented to the employees of this institution who are members of the United States Civil Service Retirement Association of Denver, and I enclose herewith a letter from a committee of these employees relative to the matter.

I would say that all of the employees of this Mint who are members of this association had already signed a petition in favor of House Bill No. 22776, known as the Goulden Bill, and while I found some disposition on the part of a few of them to favor the Gillette Bill, in the light of more complete information in the premises none of them felt like taking a definite position in the premises, and of course they were not urged by me to do so.

Respectfully
Frank M. Downer
Superintendent

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The Director of the Mint
Washington, D. C.
November 11, 1910
Sir:

I have to forward herewith my report of absences in the various departments of this institution for the month of October, 1910.

Respectfully
Frank M. Downer
Superintendent

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Smith, K. G.	1 30	100	90
Smith, G. H.	1 - -	"	95
Speer, J. T.	- 5 -	"	95
Tinker, J. F.	2 3 -	"	100
Tumlin, E. C.	7 - -	"	85
Underhill, J. B.	7 - -	"	90
Webster, R. C.	8 2 30	"	95
Wentworth, H. S.	5 - -	"	95
Whitaker, A. S.	- - -	"	95
White, M. H.	- 4 -	"	100
Whitney, G. R.	- 1 -	"	100
Wilcox, S. B.	- - -	"	90

Willan, W. R.	1 - -		90
Wilson, E. C.	- - -		90

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The Director of the Mint
Washington, D. C.
November 11, 1910
Sir:

As directed by your letter of the 6th inst., I have to make requisition for coinage dies for the calendar year 1911 as follows:

6 pair each of the following denominations: Eagles, Quarter Dollars, and Dimes:

If you desire that our gold coinage be limited to the denomination of double eagles, please change the requisition to that effect, eliminating the eagle dies, and substituting six pairs of dies for double eagles. I would prefer, if it is just as satisfactory to you, to coin gold of the denomination of eagles after the first of the year, as, with our present and prospective stock of gold bullion, as well as with our present force, I believe that eagles will be the more satisfactory denomination for us to work upon.

I have also thought, if you approve, I would better, after the first of the year, coin some subsidiary silver of the denomination of dimes, as there has been a considerable demand for that denomination, and while several months ago I had in stock some \$800,000 in dimes, it has now been reduced to approximately \$300,000, and the demand for them seems to continue from the Treasury.

Respectfully
Frank M. Downer
Superintendent

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The Director of the Mint
Washington, D. C.
November 12, 1910
Sir:

I have to enclose herewith four copies of my report setting forth the cost of operations in the various departments of this institution for the month of October, 1910.

Respectfully

Frank M. Downer
Superintendent

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Director of Mint

Washington, D. C.

November 12, 1910

BULLION FUNDS NEEDED AT NEW YORK.

Downer

Superintendent

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The Director of the Mint

Washington, D. C.

November 14, 1910

Sir:

I have to advise you that, as suggested in the concluding paragraph of your letter of the 4th inst., I will commence weighing subsidiary coin on our single weighing machine on Thursday, Nov. 17th. We finished on double eagle blanks Saturday, are now weighing the double eagle coin, and during the next three or four days will make deliveries of approximately two million dollars of that denomination.

As an item which will perhaps be of interest to you, I would say that in October we worked the automatic weighing machine and reducing device 20 days on double eagle planchets, and the average daily output (that is eight hours) was 9474 pieces, good blanks. During November we have worked the two machines on blanks slightly more than ten days (of eight hours each) and our average daily output was 9652 pieces, showing a slight increase over October.

The force has been arranged so that when we commence operations with the automatic on subsidiary coin, the machine will be operated sixteen hours out of the twenty-four, one shift working the regular hours, and the other shift coming on at 4 P. M. and working until midnight. Mr. Moessner, Scale Repairer, will be with the machine during the

regular working day, and his assistant during the night work. There will be no overtime connected with this work. In this way I estimate that we should be through with our subsidiary coin on or before December 15th.

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In order to organize these two shifts, we have curtailed the work in the Rolling Room somewhat, and as I have a considerable supply of ingots on hand, and as during this run on subsidiary coin we will not be able to operate on gold at all, I have ceased operations in the Ingot Melting Room for a little while, at least to the extent of the regular annual leave which is due the men employed in that room, and I have advised the men there that possibly they will have to take a lay-off of a week or ten days without pay.

Respectfully

Frank M. Downer
Superintendent

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The Director of the Mint
Washington, D. C.
November 14, 1910

Sir:

Referring to your letter of the 10th inst. (A.A.H.) I have to say that the item of 83.3 Std. Ozs proof gold was entered on form #60 for October because this bullion was purchased, payment being made the Mint at Philadelphia therefor by check on the Bullion Fund of this institution, and the proof gold itself charged to the Melter & Refiner, who then delivered same to the Assayer, charging him therefor.

I would say that this proof gold was purchased from the Mint at Philadelphia, and payment therefor by check drawn again my Bullion Fund was made as per instructions of the Director of the Mint under date of September 17th, 1910.

Respectfully

Frank M. Downer
Superintendent

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The Director of the Mint
Washington, D. C.
November 17, 1910

Sir:

I have to enclose herewith a communication from Mr. W. F. Bowen, Asst. Assayer, and B. P. Wirth, Foreman of the Refinery of this institution asking permission to change their bonds, at present written by the National Fidelity Insurance Company at the rate of \$1.35 per thousand, to the American Bonding Company who offered to write their bonds at the rate of \$1.00 per thousand.

If their request can be granted under the rules and regulations of the Department, I would recommend that new bonds be prepared for these gentlemen for execution by the American Bonding Company.

Respectfully
Frank M. Downer
Superintendent

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The Director of the Mint
Washington, D. C.
November 19, 1910

Sir:

I have to advise you that our Refinery has recovered, during the last two years in its parting processes, about 80 ounces of platinum sponge.

Mr. Mindeleff suggests that it can be advantageously sold at this time, and probably to Baker & Company of Newark, New Jersey.

I therefore ask authority to ship this platinum to Baker & Co. for the best price obtainable. If this permission is given me, I will thank you to advise the exact character of the credit to this institution in forwarding certificate of deposit to the Treasurer.

Respectfully
Frank M. Downer
Superintendent

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The Director of the Mint
Washington, D. C.
November 21, 1910

Sir:

Referring to your letter of the 17th inst. (A.A.H.) in reference to the silver assay determination made by this institution on bar No. 286, Helena Assay Office, shipment No. 15, I would say that the .231 parts silver was the result of repeated assays on samples of this bar made with the knowledge that the Helena Office had reported but .218. The gold fineness reported here checked the Helena gold determination.

Respectfully

Frank M. Downer
Superintendent

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The Director of the Mint
Washington, D. C.
November 22, 1910

Sir:

I have to advise you that I have this day delivered to the United States Express Co. for shipment to Maurer, N. J., one box containing samples of Mint silver, flue dust, etc., prepared by Mr. Chas Mindeleff. This shipment is made on Government Account, express charges to be paid at Washington.

The consignment weighed 17 1/2 lbs., and was marked "silver bullion, value \$25."

Respectfully

Frank M. Downer
Superintendent

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Director of Mint
Washington, D. C.
November 23, 1910

Have forwarded five pairs Dime dies immediately. Will start making dime ingots today, and will coin hundred thousand dollars dimes as soon as possible.

Downer
Superintendent

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Director of Mint
Washington, D. C.
November 23, 1910

Nineteen ten coin on hand in dollars – double eagles, seven million nine hundred sixty-six thousand; eagles, twenty-three million, five hundred ten thousand; half eagles, nine hundred thirty thousand; quarter dollars, sixty-one thousand. No halves or dimes. Twenty-two million of above eagles under seal. Will have one hundred thousand dollars additional quarters within few days.

Downer
Superintendent

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The Director of the Mint
Washington, D. C.
November 25, 1910

Sir:

To enable me to meet the expenditures for the month ending December 31, 1910, on account of appropriations made for the support of this institution for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1911, it is requested that you cause a requisition to be made upon the Secretary of the Treasury for the following amounts, with which I am to be charged and held accountable under my bond dated June 23rd, 1908, viz:

Salaries, \$3,500.
Wages of Workmen, \$7,000.
Contingent Expenses, \$2,000.
Parting & Refining, \$3,000.
Total \$15,500.00

Respectfully
Frank M. Downer
Superintendent

[270]

The Director of the Mint
Washington, D. C.
November 25, 1910
Sir:

Referring to your letter of the 21st inst. (A.A.H.) I have to say that a re-assay of Clip Bar No. 1 embraced in the Boise Assay Office shipment to this institution No. 7, confirms the determinations originally reported here of .730 1/4 gold, and .228 1/2 silver. I think perhaps the Assay Office simply noted on the invoice the fineness required for this clip bar to cover the value of the bullion charged against the Boise Assayer by the Office records for the period of clips entering into the bar. I do not quite understand your prohibition of a charge by this institution against the bar in question, which amounts to \$2.14. It is such a radical change that I have thought you might not be clear as to the character of this bar. It represents the clips taken by the Assayer at Boise from the deposit bullion for a certain period, and upon the bars represented by these clips a Parting & Refining and Alloy charge was made, these charges being based upon the weights of the bars before clipping. Therefore, as the Assay Office collected Parting & Refining and Alloy tolls for this bullion, our reciprocal accounts would seem to require that these charges be imposed upon the bar here. It has always been our custom to levy these charges against the Assayer's Clips from all the institutions re-depositing here, and if you desire that all charges be waived upon such bars from the Boise Office, I presume you would wish the same waiver to operate in favor of the other

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Assay Offices re-depositing with this institution.

At present we are not making the dollar melting charge upon such a bar, I having thought it best to give the Assay Office the benefit of this charge. However, the only Assay Office bars upon which we are making no charges whatsoever are those made up of the Deposit Melting Room sweeps, which are, of course, a source of surplus to the Government, and upon which no charges were ever collected by the Assay Offices.

Will you kindly advise me of your conclusions in the premises, and they will be carried out.

I return herewith memorandum No. 7.
Respectfully
Frank M. Downer
Superintendent

[272]

Director of Mint
Washington, D. C.
November 30, 1910
Have orders from Treasurer for dimes exceeding present stock. Expect to make delivery of twenty-five thousand dollars in dimes on Saturday. Can delivery be approved by wire? If so can complete filling of order by December sixth.
Downer
Superintendent

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Director of Mint
Washington, D. C.
November 30, 1910
November deliveries of coin – two million dollars in double eagles, and one hundred forty thousand dollars in quarter dollars.
Downer
Superintendent

[274]

The Director of the Mint
Washington, D. C.
November 30, 1910
Sir:

Referring to this new form of letter head recently furnished us, I observe there is no blank on the back for briefing letters, and would like to inquire if it is desired tat the practice of briefing letters should be discontinued.

Respectfully
Frank M. Downer
Superintendent

[275]

The Director of the Mint
Washington, D. C.
November 30, 1910

Sir:

Referring to the recent purchase of a pin-point typewriter for use in the Cashier's office at this institution, I would say that this machine necessarily uses more ribbons than the ordinary machine, and I would therefore ask to be supplied with nine (9) "Paragon" typewriter ribbons, one half inch wide, double color – green and red.

Respectfully
Frank M. Downer
Superintendent

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The Director of the Mint
Washington, D. C.
December 1, 1910

Sir:

I have to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 28th ult. with respect to the gold certificates which I have on hand here. The amount of these certificates this morning has been increased to \$118,000, and were received in exchange for subsidiary silver coin.

I had already this morning, prior to the receipt of your letter written a letter to you requesting that a Transfer Order be issued for the shipment of these gold certificates to a Sub-Treasury, in which manner gold certificates received at this institution have heretofore been disposed of.

Answering your inquiry with respect to the denotation and the condition of these certificates, I would say that among them are twenty-four one thousand dollar bills, sixteen five hundred dollar bills, and the remainder of the lot is made up largely of one hundred dollar and fifty dollar bills, with some tens and twenties. Practically all of these certificates are in first-class condition, and but few of them appear to have been circulated to any great extent.

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It has occurred to me that the Government should not be put to the expense of paying express charges on these certificates to the Sub-Treasury at St. Louis where they have ordinarily been transferred from here, as they were all received in exchange for subsidiary silver coin, and if the Government is obliged to pay express charges upon them, it would of course be equivalent to paying express charges on subsidiary silver coin shipped to banks, which practice I understand has been discontinued.

Denver is of course the only city having a Mint which does not also have a Sub-Treasury, and I presume that this question does not arise at the other institutions. I have wondered if it would not be possible to authorize me to deposit these gold certificates in one of the local United States Depository Banks to the credit of the general account of the Treasurer, or whether I might be permitted to pay for deposits of gold bullion with these gold certificates, in which case, of course, I could very quickly dispose of them, and without any difficulty at all.

As I have stated, the amount of these certificates this morning is \$118,000 and it is probable that by the time I can hear from you, they will be somewhat increased in amount.

Respectfully
Frank M. Downer
Superintendent

[279]

Director of the Mint
Washington, D. C.
November 30, 1910
Sir:

Upon examination and count at the close of business on the thirtieth day of November, 1910, I found the moneys in the hands of the Cashier to be as follows:

Gold Bars 1,173.407 Std. Ozs.
Gold Coin \$392,343,687.50
Silver Bars 1,224.95 Std. Ozs.
Silver Coin \$3,019,809.10
Currency Gold Certificates \$118,000.00
Minor Coins \$471.20
Total \$395,481,967.80
Cash belonging to Ordinary Expense Accounts \$6,082.49

Frank M. Downer
Superintendent

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Director of Mint
Washington, D. C.
December 2, 1910
WILL REQUIRE THREE PAIR DIME DIES TO COMPLETE DECEMBER COINAGE DIMES. PLEASE HAVE SHIPMENT EXPEDITED.
Downer
Superintendent

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Director of Mint
Washington, D. C.
December 2, 1910
WILL PUSH WORK ON DIMES. COMMENCING TOMORROW, WILL, IF YOU APPROVE, WORK OVERTIME. HAVE ONLY ENOUGH FINE SILVER EXCLUSIVE OF METAL ALREADY CAST INTO QUARTER DOLLAR INGOTS TO MAKE ABOUT ONE HUNDRED FIFTY THOUSAND DOLLARS DIMES. IF COINAGE DIMES IN EXCESS THAT AMOUNT IS DESIRED, WILL NEED FINE SILVER. BY WORKING DOUBLE TIME CAN DELIVER ABOUT TWENTY-TWO THOUSAND DOLLARS DAILY.
Downer
Superintendent

[282]

Director of Mint
Washington, D. C.
December 3, 1910

PLEASE INCREASE YESTERDAY'S ORDER FOR DIME DIES TO SIX PAIR.

Downer
Superintendent

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Treasurer of United States
Washington, D. C.
December 3, 1910

HAKE TRY PELF PRIM WREN WRY WEDNESDAY OR THURSDAY FINIS ABBOTT
GRAH TRY PEAR ZIP OCTA PLANET BLUE MONDAY.

Downer
Superintendent

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The Director of the Mint
Washington, D. C.
December 3, 1910

Sir:

As directed in your letter of the 28th ult., I enclose herewith a letter from Mr. Hodgson, Assayer at this Mint, giving the assay results obtained, together with the method followed in taking samples of bar No. 286 in Helena Shipment No. 15.

I would say that my attention was not called to the varying results obtained in the assay of the total buttons. Had such been the case the bar would have been remelted until the silver was more uniformly distributed.

In this particular case it would appear from the results obtained from the assay of the anode melt which included this bar, that the silver contents of the bar as reported by Mr. Hodgson were verified, but in my opinion the result in this instance does not justify the averaging of number of assays which vary as much as 17 points from the lowest to the highest.

I have instructed Mr. Hodgson that in the future, when such results are obtained, the bar must be melted in order to obtain more homogeneous samples.

Respectfully
Frank M. Downer
Superintendent

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Adams, O. L.	- 7 -	100	90
Beggs, W. H.	- 1 45	"	90
Bell, W. E.	- - -	"	90
Bowers, M. F.	- - -	"	95
Brady, Daniel	11 - -	"	95
Brierley, G. F. W.	- - -	"	95
Buck, R. H.	1 4 30	"	70
Bulkeley, R. C.	6 - -	"	85
Campbell, W. G.	- - -	"	100
Chaffin, F. H.	- 3 -	"	100
Charlton, Thos.	13 - -	On detail at Phila. Mint	
Coffin, Edna	- 3 30	"	100
Coffman, G. A.	- - -	"	95
Cogan, J. C.	4 - -	"	90
Denckla, H. J.	- 2 -	"	100
Fribourg, A. L.	1 1 -	"	100

Haines, C. S.	13 - -	“	90
Heatley, Florence G.	- 2 15	“	95
Hill, G. M.	2 2 30	“	90
Hinrichs, Oscar	1 2 -	“	100
Hobart, E. L.	- - -	“	85
Hume, F. N.	5 - -	“	90
Jackson, M. T.	- 4 -	“	90
Leech, E. P.	- - -	“	100
Leykam, Joseph	- - -	“	90
Ligon, Asa	- - -	“	90
McGreal, D. J.	- - -	“	95
Mansfield, C. A.	2 - -	“	90
Metcalf, L. D.	1 - -	“	95
Moessner, E. F.	- 4 -	“	100
Monaghan, Peter, Jr.	- 1 45	W. P. “	90
Miller, Eastanh D.	6 - -	“	95
Newbury, C. A.	- - -	“	90
Perkins, T. D.	- - -	“	90
Perry, R. J.	7 - -	“	90
Peterson, Ole	- - -	“	95
Phillips, B. M.	- - 30	“	100
Phillips, J. K.	- - -	“	85
H. J. Humphrey	4 - -	“	95
Robinson, A. W.	- 1 -	“	90
Ryan, Patrick	- 2 -	“	95
Smith, E. O.	- - -	“	95

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Smith, G. H.	10 - -	100	95
Speer, J. T.	20 - -	"	95
Tinker, J. F.	- - -	"	100
Tumlin, E. C.	11 - -	"	85
Underhill, J. B.	- - -	"	90
Webster, R. C.	1 - 30	"	95
Wentworth, H. S.	10 - -	"	95
Whitaker, A. S.	1 - 30	"	95
White, M. H.	- - -	"	100
Whitney, G. R.	- - 30	"	100
Wilcox, S. B.	- - -	"	90
Willan, W. R.	- 4 -	"	90
Willan, W. R.	- 7 -	W. P.	
Wilson, E. G.	- - -	"	90

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The Director of the Mint
Washington, D. C.
December 5, 1910
Sir:

I have to enclose herewith my report of absences in the various departments of this institution for the month of November, 1910.

Respectfully
Frank M. Downer

Superintendent

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The Director of the Mint
Washington, D. C.
December 6, 1910

Sir:

Referring to your letter of the 25th ult. (K) in reply to mine of the 19th ult. requesting the preparation of new bonds in the sum of \$10,000 each for Winter F. Bowen, Assistant Assayer, and Benne P. Wirth, Foreman of Refinery, - I have to furnish herewith as requested the consent of the International Fidelity Insurance Company to accept a prorate payment of premium to the time of execution of new bonds by these gentlemen.

I will thank you to have the bonds prepared for their action.

Respectfully

Frank M. Downer
Superintendent

[291]

The Director of the Mint
Washington, D. C.
December 7, 1910

Sir:

I have to forward herewith my report of changes in employees in the various departments of this institution for the month of November, 1910.

Respectfully

Frank M. Downer
Superintendent

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The Director of the Mint

Washington, D. C.
December 7, 1910

Sir:

Referring to your telegram of the 3rd inst. wherein I am authorized to work the force of this institution over time during the rush on dimes, I have to say that in arranging for this over time work I have encountered one difficulty that I had not anticipated. You understand, of course, that the over time work is confined practically to the Press and Rolling Rooms. The foremen of these two rooms, Messrs. Hempel and Robinson are now paid upon a per annum basis. The same is true of Mr. La Veille, Asst. Foreman of the Press Room, and R. P. Boutwell, Foreman of Annealers. There has not been, however, the necessity of working over time in the Whitening Room to any great extent.

Of course, when the Press and Rolling Rooms are working, it is absolutely essential that the foremen of these rooms, Messrs. Hempel and Robinson, shall be on duty, and I take great pleasure in saying that these two gentlemen have, without any hesitation, cheerfully and willingly worked double time, or until twelve o'clock midnight every night since, and including, Saturday Dec. 3rd. They have done this with the full knowledge that under present arrangements there was no way by which I could pay them for their over time work, and they have

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acted so loyally and in such an unselfish manner in the premises that I am anxious if possible to arrange matters in some way so that they may be paid for this over time work, although, as I say, they do not expect it. It has occurred to me that if they could be placed from Dec. 1st on a per diem basis at their former per diem compensations, to wit, \$5.50 for Hempel, \$5.00 for Robinson, \$4.50 for Boutwell, and \$4.25 for La Veille, I would then be enabled to pay them for their over time services, as all other employees who are engaged in this work are paid. I would say that Mr. Baldwin feels with respect to this exactly as I do.

The case of Mr. La Veille is different from that of the other men that I have mentioned, as he did not evince the same willingness to assist us in meeting the unexpected calls for subsidiary silver coin of the denomination of dimes, and I have consequently not required him to put in extra time, although he could have been used to good advantage as he has charge of the makeup of deliveries, and we have been somewhat hampered in that work on that account.

I am stating these facts so that if you feel as I do that these men should be paid for their over time work, and it can be done, you may take the necessary steps to enable me to do it, but I want to make it especially clear and plain that these men, that is Hempel, Robinson, and Boutwell, have not asked for this action, neither do they expect it.

We are getting along with the work in good shape, and our deliveries of dimes will average approximately \$22,000 daily, as I wired

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you on Saturday.

The reviewing machine recently received from the mint at Philadelphia is assisting us greatly in this work; without it we would be unable to do as well as we are doing. All of the coin is thoroughly inspected before it is made up for delivery.

Mr. Baldwin and Mr. Wells are "on the job" at all time, and are safe guarding the quality of the coin at all points.

I am \$50,000 behind on the Treasurer's orders for dimes, but Mr. Baldwin expects to deliver \$30,000 today, and a like amount tomorrow, when we will be ready to make further shipments.

Respectfully
Frank M. Downer
Superintendent

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Director of Mint
Washington, D. C.
December 8, 1910.

AM AVERAGING DELIVERIES OF APPROXIMATELY TWENTY-TWO THOUSAND DOLLARS DAILY IN DIMES. HAVE DELIVERED SO FAR THIS WEEK FIFTY-SIX THOUSAND DOLLARS. IF COIN MAKES UP CLOSELY WILL DELIVER THIRTY THOUSAND ADDITIONAL TODAY. ESTIMATE TOTAL DELIVERIES THIS WEEK AT ONE HUNDRED THIRTY THOUSAND DOLLARS. WILL COMPLETE SHIPMENT OF ALL TREASURER'S ORDERS FOR BOTH SUBTREASURIES AND BANKS. SO FAR AS RECEIVED HERE, TOMORROW, AND HAVE FIFTEEN THOUSAND DOLLARS DIMES AVAILABLE FOR FURTHER SHIPMENTS.

Downer
Superintendent

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The Director of the Mint
Washington, D. C.
December 9, 1910

Sir:

I have to enclose a communication from Mr. Joseph W. Milsom, Melter & Refiner of this institution, requesting - on account of the serious illness of Mrs. Milsom - a leave of absence from his duties at this Mint for thirty days, and designating Mr. J. M. Hetrich to attend to his duties and represent him during his absence. I have told Mr. Milsom that his request for thirty days' leave, commencing Dec. 15th, 1910, is granted, and his designation of Mr. Hetrich to act for him during such absence is confirmed, subject to your approval.

This procedure, as I understand it, is in accordance with your letter of March 2nd, 1910.
Respectfully
Frank M. Downer
Superintendent

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Director of Mint
Washington, D. C.
December 10, 1910

IN RE YOUR LETTER SIXTH HAVE TWO HUNDRED THIRTY FIVE THOUSAND OUNCES SILVER IN QUARTER INGOTS. EXCLUSIVE OF THAT, AND INCLUDING YOUR RECENT PURCHASE, HAVE ENOUGH SILVER TO RUN AT PRESENT RATE EIGHT OR TEN DAYS. DELIVERY DIMES TODAY WILL BE THIRTY THOUSAND. WILL HAVE THIS EVENING AFTER FILLING ALL TREASURER'S ORDERS NOW HERE FORTY THOUSAND DOLLARS DIMES AVAILABLE.

Downer
Superintendent

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The Director of the Mint
Washington, D. C.
December 10, 1910

Sir:

I have to acknowledge the receipt of check No. 59265 drawn by the Treasurer of the United States on the Asst. Treasurer at New York in my favor for the sum of \$151, the same being the value of coins forwarded by me to the Bureau for special assay during the quarter ended September 30th, 1910.

Respectfully
Frank M. Downer
Superintendent

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Director of Mint
Washington, D. C.
December 10, 1910
BULLION FUNDS NEEDED AT NEW YORK.
Downer
Superintendent

[300]

The Director of the Mint
Washington, D. C.
December 10, 1910

Sir:

I have to advise you that your letter dated Nov. 26th, 1910, requesting me to furnish you by the 20th inst. an estimate of the production of the precious metals in Colorado for the calendar year 1910, reached this Office on yesterday, Sunday, December 11th. Every effort will be made to secure the data necessary to the compilation of this estimate so that you may receive it by the date named.

Respectfully
Frank M. Downer
Superintendent

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The Director of the Mint
Washington, D. C.
December 12, 1910

Sir:

I have to enclose copy of final settlement made this day with the local Cashier of the American Smelting and Refining Company for 67 bars silver bullion furnished this institution under your purchase of the [illegible] inst.

Respectfully

Frank M. Downer
Superintendent

[302]

Director of Mint
Washington, D. C.
December 13, 1910

PLEASE HAVE SIX PAIR DIME DIES NINETEEN TEN FURNISHED AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. HAVE HAD ILL LUCK WITH SOME.

Downer

Superintendent

[303]

The Director of the Mint
Washington, D. C.
December 13, 1910

Sir:

I have to forward herewith four copies of my report setting forth the cost of operations in the various departments of this institution, for the month of November, 1910.

Respectfully

Frank M. Downer
Superintendent

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The Director of the Mint
Washington, D. C.
December 13, 1910

Sir:

As requested by your letter of the 9th inst. (K) I have to advise you that for each month of the fiscal year 1909, the rolls of this institution bore the names of four Officers, and the following number of employees:

1908		1909	
July	166	Jan.	182
Aug.	165	Feb.	184
Sept.	168	Mar.	183
Oct.	180	Apr.	183
Nov.	181	May	180
Dec.	180	June	178

Respectfully
Frank M. Downer
Superintendent

[305]

The Director of the Mint
Washington, D. C.
December 13, 1910

Sir:

Under date of Nov. 30th, 1910, I wrote you requesting, for the use of the new pin point typewriter in the Cashier's Office of this institution, nine "Paragon" Typewriter Ribbons, 1/2" wide, double color, green and red. Today I have received from the Department nine Underwood Ribbons, blue copying black. These ribbons are not at all suitable for our checks which are of tinted paper and not copied. I very much desire the green and red

ribbon specified, and if not in stock I would ask authority to purchase nine of these from the Remington Agency in this city.

Respectfully
Frank M. Downer
Superintendent

[306]

The Director of the Mint
Washington, D. C.
December 14, 1910
Sir:

I have to recommend that the official title of Mr. Benne P. Wirth, who is at present carried on our rolls as Foreman of the Refinery, be changed - effective from January 1st, 1911 to "Superintendent of the Refinery." I would say that Mr. Milsom, Melter and Refiner at this institution, is in favor of this change in the designation of Mr. Wirth.

The services of Mr. Wirth in the Refinery have been eminently satisfactory, and I think that a recognition of that fact by a change in his designation would be very pleasing to him. This change, if approved, will of course not involve any increase in compensation at this time.

Respectfully
Frank M. Downer
Superintendent

[307]

Director of the Mint
Washington, D. C.
December 15, 1910

If you approve will cease overtime work on dimes. Demand for that denomination apparently supplied, and have seventy-five thousand available. Can turn out about ten thousand in dimes daily working regular time. Please advise me.

Downer
Superintendent

[308]

The Director of the Mint
Washington, D. C.
December 15, 1910

Sir:

Referring further to my letter of the 13th inst., and to the nine Underwood Typewriter Ribbons, the receipt of which was acknowledged therein, I have to state that in as much as I find upon investigation that these ribbons cannot be used even for regular typewriting on any of the machines in use here, for the reason that the hole in the spool is too small to go on the machine, I have this day returned them to you with the request that the charge for same be credited to my stationery account.

Respectfully
Frank M. Downer
Superintendent

[309]

The Director of the Mint
Washington, D. C.
December 15, 1910

Sir:

I have the honor to enclose with my approval Coiner's requisition for four dime collars, together with sketch.

Respectfully
Frank M. Downer
Superintendent

[310]

The Director of the Mint
Washington, D. C.
December 16, 1910

Sir:

Referring to your letter of the 10th inst. relative to the purchase of one hundred thousand ounces silver from Kountze Bros., I would say that the bullion arrived here this

morning, and I am today forwarding to Kountze Bros. my check on the Asst. Treasurer at New York for \$54,000. The remaining amount, of course, will be paid after the bars are assayed and calculated. I have had Mr. Hodgson make a preliminary assay of ten of the bars in order to get an idea of the fineness of the silver comprised in this shipment. He reports to me the following results on top and bottom samples taken from ten of these bars:

1. A 999.90
B 999.90
2. A 999.90
B 999.90
3. A 999.75
B 999.75
4. A 999.75
B 999.75
5. A 999.75
B 999.90
6. A 999.90
B 999.90
7. A 999.75
B 999.75
8. A 999.25
B 999.50
9. A 999
B 999.90
10. A 999.75
B 999.90

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I have a letter from Kountze Bros. from which I quote as follows:

"We have requested the Acting Director of the Mint at Washington to ask you to report the exact fineness over and above .999 which may be shown by your assays of this particular bullion, in order that you may both see exactly what additional value is contained therein, as contracted with that which had heretofore been purchased by the U. S. Mint, and which has been generally covered by offerings from others than ourselves.

We should also highly appreciate the favor if you will give us a report of the exact fineness your assays may show for each bar of this particular shipment if you can give us this information without impropriety."

I would respectfully inquire if you desire that I should give this information to Kountze Bros. I would also like to be advised, if, under the regulations, this purchase bullion should be reported to the half or to the quarter thousandth.

Respectfully

Frank M. Downer
Superintendent

[312]

The Director of the Mint

Washington, D. C.

December 16, 1910

Sir:

I have to advise you that, as authorized in your telegram of the 15th inst., I have discontinued overtime work on dimes.

Until otherwise directed by you, I will proceed to coin dimes, and will also work on gold of the denotation of Double Eagles.

We have finished weighing the quarter dollars, which, owing to the fact of our having but one automatic weighing machine, had accumulated here, and the remainder of these quarters will be delivered during this month.

As soon as they are through with our two automatic machines at Philadelphia, I would like very much to have them forwarded here, as we can use them to good advantage on and after January 1st, 1911.

Respectfully

Frank M. Downer
Superintendent

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The Director of the Mint

Washington, D. C.

December 16, 1910

Sir:

I have written to the Supervising Architect asking permission to cut a doorway through the West end of the Refinery into the Tool Room of the Machine Shop, so that I may uti-

lize the space now used as a tool room for the Machine Shop as a part of the Refinery; also requesting the Supervising Architect to have a partition built so that the Refinery would be shut off from the rest of the building, as of course it must be.

As you know, we have always been considerably cramped for room in the Refinery at this institution. There was no provision made in the original plans for a Refinery Melting Room, and, as you will perhaps recall, we were compelled to take the south end of what was originally intended to be used as the Adjusting Room for a melting room for the Refinery. The additional space which will be available if my recommendations are approved, will provide - among other things - a place for the motor generator sets used in the Refinery, and for a bullion balance which it is intended to install there to enable Mr. Wirth to check up and weigh gold and silver anode melts, so that he may determine the efficiency of work in the Refinery, and it is also hoped that we may secure an approximate check on the bullion in the Refinery at least every Quarter.

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I think that the floor space that will be taken from the Machine Shop can be spared, although it may crowd things there somewhat.

If you approve of my plan with respect to providing a larger space for the Refinery, I will appreciate it if you will use your good offices with the Supervising Architect in inducing him to allow this work to be done. On the other hand, if you do not approve, the matter can be stopped exactly where it is, as no expense in the premises has so far been incurred. I am forwarding to the Supervising Architect a detailed sketch of the proposed improvements, together with bids I have secured for the erection of the partition.

Respectfully
Frank M. Downer
Superintendent

[315]

The Director of the Mint
Washington, D. C.
December 16, 1910
Sir:

The 1000 ounce bullion balance recently consigned this institution from the U. S. Assay Office at Deadwood, So. Dak. for repairs, has this day been shipped that institution, the gross weight of the box being 402 lbs.

When the balance was received here, it was found to be defective in weighing to the extent of .20 ounces on a 1000 ounce lot, due to the poor condition and position of the knife edges. This balance has been thoroughly repaired and improved by adding adjustable beam rests and adjusting screws for the end yokes.

The balance is of 1000 ounce capacity, and while it was tested here with a load of 1500 ounces, for continuous use it should not be subjected to loads much in excess of 1000 ounces.

A statement of account against the Assay Office at Deadwood for the value of the balance forwarded that Office by your directions some time ago, costs incident to its boxing, etc., and the charges for repairing and boxing this second balance, is enclosed herewith.

Respectfully
Frank M. Downer
Superintendent

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THE U. S. ASSAY OFFICE AT DEADWOOD, SO. DAKOTA,
TO THE MINT OF THE UNITED STATES AT DENVER, COLO.

Date	Authority	Articles & Services	Amount
1910 Sept. 19th	Letter of Director of Mint dated Sept. 10th, 1910.	One (1) 2000 ounce Bullion Balance: Labor: Carpenter \$4.50 Scale Repairer \$10.00 \$14.50 Contingent Expenses: Boxing material \$4.00 Drayage \$1.50 Value Balance (original cost \$800) \$400.00 \$405.50	\$420.00

Dec. 16th	“	Repairing and shipping One (1) 1000 oz. balance: Labor: Carpenter \$1.75 Scale Repairer \$20.00 \$21.75 Contingent Expenses: Boxing material \$1.00 Drayage \$.75 \$1.75	\$443.50
		Summary of Account. Labor \$36.25 Contingent \$407.25 Total of Voucher \$443.50	

I hereby certify that the foregoing expenditures, embracing materials and services, are deemed just and reasonable, and actually entered into the service performed.

Superintendent

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The Director of the Mint
Washington, D. C.
December 17, 1910
Sir:

As requested by your letter dated Nov. 26th, 1910, I have to enclose my estimate of the precious metals production of Colorado for the calendar year 1910. I also enclose, as asked, a statement of this Mint's actual receipts from Colorado, Utah, and New Mexico, from Jan. 1st, to Dec. 10th, 1910.

Respectfully
Frank M. Downer
Superintendent

□

RECEIPTS AT DENVER MINT FROM COLORADO, UTAH, AND NEW MEXICO
January 1st, 1910 to December 10th, 1910.

	Gold Fine Ounces	Silver Fine Ounces
Colorado (Exclusive of Plants)	220,515.805	294,209.46
Colorado Plant	2,963.474	1,089.36
Portland Gold Mining Co.	95,077.599	5,119.61
Standard Plant	67,793.677	74.37
Golden Cycle Mining Co.	233,871.128	14,226.20
Total Plants	399,705.878	20,509.54
Total Colorado	620,221.683	314,719.00
Utah	12.976	6.34
U. S. Assay Office at Salt Lake	39,318.349	10,332.91
Total Utah	39,331.325	10,339.25
New Mexico	4,878.743	10,935.09

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The Director of the Mint
Washington, D. C.
December 17, 1910
Sir:

Referring to your letter of the 12th inst. (A.A.H.) relative to shipment No. 6 from the Salt Lake City Assay Office, and your letter of the 13th inst. (A.A.H.) relative to shipment No. 8 from the Boise Assay Office, I have to enclose herewith a latter from Mr. Hodgson, Assayer of this institution, in which he gives in detail the results obtained on each bar in these two shipments. I would say that Mr. Hodgson, prior to his assay of the various bars comprised in these two shipments, was not furnished with the invoices showing the

fineness as determined at the Assay Offices. I requested him to make his report entirely independent of the results obtained at the Assay Offices.

In my talk with Mr. Hodgson before he began operations on these two shipments, it was agreed between us that, in case his first results upon a sample of any bar did not agree closely enough to report the bar, he should repeat the assay. If the repeat failed to give close determinations, the bar was to be re-sampled for re-assay. If this re-assay was not satisfactory, the bar was to be re-melted, which last contingency did not arise in any bar of these shipments. The figures on the accompanying statement were submitted to me before

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Mr. Hodgson reported the bars for calculation, and I regarded – as did he – the determinations as exceedingly close and satisfactory, and was authorized by me to report them, as he did, regardless of the fact that they generally differed, more or less, and in the case of Salt Lake bar #157, very considerably, from the Assay Office findings.

I might say that during the stay with us of Mr. Chas. Mindeleff, the latter gentleman and myself went over thoroughly with Mr. Hodgson the system obtaining in his department throughout all the processes incident to the work there, and I feel that these discussions resulted in material improvements in the work of the Assay Department, which will be more apparent I believe as time goes on.

I have told Mr. Hodgson that in arriving at his assay determinations, to every case he should secure a result which he himself is positive is correct, and which he would be able and willing to justify under any criticism, and to that end I have withheld from him the invoice finenesses, and this practice, unless disapproved, will be maintained.

Respectfully

Frank M. Downer

Superintendent

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The Director of the Mint

Washington, D. C.

December 19, 1910

Sir:

I have to enclose bids from Baker & Co. of Newark, N. J., Bishop & Co. of Malvern, Pa., and the S. S. White Dental Mfg. Co., of Philadelphia, Pa., for 80.03 Troy ounces of platinum sponge recovered in the Refinery of this institution.

I would say that a sample of this platinum sponge would not fairly represent the mass, and we have no facilities for melting some. These companies were invited to bid on the basis of the pure platinum contents, the total amount of same to be determined by analysis of the successful bidder upon receipt of the platinum lot.

I would recommend the acceptance of the bid of Baker & Co. – \$35 per Troy ounce, for the pure platinum contents.

Respectfully
Frank M. Downer
Superintendent